



2020/2140(DEC)

4.3.2021

AMENDMENTS

1 - 840

Draft report

Joachim Kuhs

(PE655.922v01-00)

2019 discharge: General budget of the EU - European Commission
(2020/2140(DEC))

Amendment 1

Joachim Kuhs, Gunnar Beck, Jean-François Jalkh

Proposal for a decision 1

Citation 14 a (new)

Proposal for a decision

Amendment

— *Having regard to the answer of the Commission to parliamentary question E-005156/2020;*

Or. en

Amendment 2

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Proposal for a decision 1

Paragraph 1

Proposal for a decision

Amendment

1. Grants the Commission discharge in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2019 / *Postpones its decision on granting the Commission discharge in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2019;*

1. Grants the Commission discharge in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2019

Or. en

Amendment 3

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Proposal for a decision 1

Paragraph 1

Proposal for a decision

Amendment

1. Grants the Commission discharge in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for

1. Grants the Commission discharge in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for

the financial year 2019 / ***Postpones its decision on granting the Commission discharge in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2019;***

the financial year 2019;

Or. en

Amendment 4
Joachim Kuhs, Jean-François Jalkh

Proposal for a decision 1
Paragraph 1

Proposal for a decision

1. ***Grants the Commission discharge in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2019 /*** Postpones its decision on granting the Commission discharge in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2019;

Amendment

1. Postpones its decision on granting the Commission discharge in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2019;

Or. en

Amendment 5
Joachim Kuhs, Gunnar Beck, Jean-François Jalkh, Matteo Adinolfi

Proposal for a decision 1
Paragraph 2 a (new)

Proposal for a decision

2 a. Deplores the answer of the Commission to parliamentary question E-005156/2020, which was given on 18 February 2021, five months after it was tabled, which in itself already took weeks to table, given the reluctance of the European Parliament's internal services; rejects the Commission's qualification of the Commission's president expenses as confidential under Regulation No

Amendment

2018/1725, since the question merely inquires whether the apartment of the Commission President in the Berlaymont building has separate counters for gas, electricity and water from the counters of the rest of the building; urges the Commission to answer this question without further delay;

Or. en

Amendment 6

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Proposal for a decision 2

Paragraph 1

Proposal for a decision

1. Grants the Director of the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2019 / *Postpones its decision on granting the Director of the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2019;*

Amendment

1. Grants the Director of the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2019;

Or. en

Amendment 7

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Proposal for a decision 3

Paragraph 1

Proposal for a decision

1. Grants the Acting Director of the Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget

Amendment

1. Grants the Acting Director of the Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget

for the financial year 2019 / *Postpones its decision on granting the Acting Director of the Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2019;*

for the financial year 2019;

Or. en

Amendment 8

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Proposal for a decision 4

Paragraph 1

Proposal for a decision

1. Grants the Director of the Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2019 / *Postpones its decision on granting the Director of the Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2019;*

Amendment

1. Grants the Director of the Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2019;

Or. en

Amendment 9

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Proposal for a decision 5

Paragraph 1

Proposal for a decision

1. Grants the Director of the European Research Council Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial

Amendment

1. Grants the Director of the European Research Council Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial

year 2019 / *Postpones its decision on granting the Director of the European Research Council Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2019;*

year 2019;

Or. en

Amendment 10

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Proposal for a decision 6

Paragraph 1

Proposal for a decision

1. Grants the Director of the Research Executive Agency discharge in relation to the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2019 / *Postpones its decision on granting the Director of the Research Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2019;*

Amendment

1. Grants the Director of the Research Executive Agency discharge in relation to the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2019;

Or. en

Amendment 11

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Proposal for a decision 7

Paragraph 1

Proposal for a decision

1. Grants the Director of the Innovation and Networks Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2019 / *Postpones its decision on granting the Director of the Innovation and Networks Executive*

Amendment

1. Grants the Director of the Innovation and Networks Executive Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2019;

Agency discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2019;

Or. en

Amendment 12

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Proposal for a decision 8

Paragraph 1

Proposal for a decision

1. Approves the closure of the accounts of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2019
/ Postpones the closure of the accounts of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2019;

Amendment

1. Approves the closure of the accounts of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2019;

Or. en

Amendment 13

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Recital A

Motion for a resolution

A. the Union budget is a significant instrument for achieving common policy objectives, and on average represents 2,1 % of the Member States' general government expenditure and total public spending in the Union;

Amendment

A. the Union budget is a significant instrument for achieving common policy objectives, and on average represents **1.0 % of EU gross national income or** 2,1 % of the Member States' general government expenditure and total public spending in the Union;

Or. en

Amendment 14

Motion for a resolution

Recital A

Motion for a resolution

A. the Union budget is a significant instrument for achieving common policy objectives, and on average represents 2,1 % of the Member States' general government expenditure and ***total public spending in the Union***;

Amendment

A. the Union budget is a significant instrument for achieving common policy objectives, and on average represents 2,1 % of the Member States' general government expenditure and ***1.0% of EU gross national income***;

Or. en

Amendment 15

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Recital B

Motion for a resolution

B. when the Parliament grants discharge to the Commission, it verifies and evaluates whether or not funds have been used correctly and policy goals have been achieved;

Amendment

B. when the Parliament grants discharge to the Commission, it verifies and evaluates whether or not funds have been used correctly and policy goals have been achieved, ***thus confirming the regularity and the performance – value for money of the Commission's spending***;

Or. en

Amendment 16

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Recital B

Motion for a resolution

B. when the Parliament grants discharge to the Commission, it verifies

Amendment

B. when the Parliament grants discharge to the Commission, it verifies

and evaluates whether or not funds have been used correctly and policy goals have been achieved;

and evaluates whether or not funds have been used correctly and policy goals have been achieved *after internal and external audits* ;;

Or. en

Amendment 17

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Recital C

Motion for a resolution

C. the 2019 discharge procedure covers a year marked by political and institutional transition with elections to the European Parliament and a new legislature which commenced on 2 July 2019 and the appointment of a new Commission, which took office on 1 December 2019 and which set new political priorities, such as the European Green Deal and an increasing focus on digitalising the Union;

Amendment

C. the 2019 discharge procedure covers a year marked by political and institutional transition with elections to the European Parliament and a new legislature which commenced on 2 July 2019 and the appointment of a new Commission, which took office on 1 December 2019 and which set new political priorities, such as the European Green Deal and an increasing focus on digitalising the Union *and the protection of its values and of the money of EU taxpayers*;;

Or. en

Amendment 18

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Recital D

Motion for a resolution

D. the outbreak of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) did not require any adjustments to the figures reported in the 2019 Union annual accounts; however, in 2020 and in the years to come, the COVID-19 outbreak will have a significant

Amendment

D. the outbreak of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) did not require any adjustments to the figures reported in the 2019 Union annual accounts; however, in 2020 and in the years to come, the COVID-19 outbreak will have a significant

global impact, as well as having important implications for the Union budget, and in this regard, as from 2020, the implementation of the Union's immediate response initiatives will affect the recognition, measurement or reclassification of multiple assets and liabilities in the financial statements of the Union;

global impact, as well as having important implications for the Union budget, and in this regard, ***we have to determine with a particular attention if Commission used with efficiency and transparency the Union budget, because*** as from 2020, the implementation of the Union's immediate response initiatives will affect the recognition, measurement or reclassification of multiple assets and liabilities in the financial statements of the Union;

Or. en

Amendment 19

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution

Recital D a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

D a. as a direct consequence of the outbreak of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) the Committee on Budgetary Control could not organise or fully carry out all of its planned activities related to the usual controls of the EU institutions' spending, i.e. its fact finding missions, public hearings or workshops and thus had to rely even more on the work of the Court;

Or. en

Amendment 20

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 1

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

1. Highlights, with regard to the implementation of the Union budget, the importance of complying with the principle of sound financial management as enshrined in Article 317 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU);

1. Highlights, with regard to the implementation of the Union budget, the importance of complying with the principle of sound financial management as enshrined in Article 317 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU)), ***as well as the importance of achieving programmes priorities and objectives which contribute to strengthening the European integration and creating an ever closer Union***

.

Or. en

Amendment 21

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Arnaud Danjean, Angelika Winzig, Niclas Herbst, Petri Sarvamaa, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 1

Motion for a resolution

1. Highlights, with regard to the implementation of the Union budget, the importance of complying with the principle of sound financial management as enshrined in Article 317 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU);

Amendment

1. Highlights, with regard to the implementation of the Union budget, the importance of complying with the principle of sound financial management as enshrined in Article 317 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU); ***emphasises that respect for the rule of law is among the most essential preconditions for sound financial management including the efficient and effective allocation and management of European funds; strongly welcomes in that regard the adoption of Regulation 2020/2092 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2020 on a general regime of conditionality for the protection of the Union budget; welcomes that the Commission has started its work on guidelines and emphatically reminds that this Regulation is applicable from 1 January 2020; expects the Commission, as the guardian of the Treaties, to ensure that the Regulation is***

fully applicable from the date agreed by the co-legislators and reminds that annulment of the Regulation or part of it is only possible by the CJEU;

Or. en

Amendment 22

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Olivier Chastel, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 1

Motion for a resolution

1. Highlights, with regard to the implementation of the Union budget, the importance of complying with the principle of sound financial management as enshrined in Article 317 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU);

Amendment

1. Highlights, with regard to the implementation of the Union budget, the importance of complying with the principle of sound financial management as enshrined in Article 317 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU); ***recalls that the fully functioning principle of the rule of law is a precondition of the effective implementation of the budget;***

Or. en

Amendment 23

Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 1

Motion for a resolution

1. Highlights, with regard to the implementation of the Union budget, the importance of complying with the principle of sound financial management as enshrined in Article 317 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU);

Amendment

1. Highlights, with regard to the implementation of the Union budget, the importance of ***respect of the rule of law as a precondition*** for complying with the principle of sound financial management as enshrined in Article 317 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU);

Amendment 24

Katalin Cseh, Ramona Strugariu, Alin Mituța, Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel, Daniel Freund, Pascal Durand

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 2 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

2 a. Notes that the new regulation on a general regime of conditionality for the protection of the Union budget is applicable since 1st January 2021; stresses that the Court of Justice of the European Union has already unequivocally established in its recent judgment in case C-5/16 Poland v EP & Council[1] that statements contained in European Council Conclusions cannot prevail over or modify the text of the regulation; calls therefore on the European Commission, as “Guardian of the Treaties” to apply the regulation from the date it entered into force and start the rule of law mechanisms when it is necessary;
[1] Judgment of 21 June 2018, EU:C:2018:483.

Amendment 25

Olivier Chastel, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 3 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

3 a. Welcomes the new regulation on a general regime of conditionality for the protection of the Union budget establishing the rules necessary for the protection of the Union budget in the case

of breaches of the principles of the rule of law in the Member States ; Recalls that this regulation designed to protect EU funds will have to be applied to all commitments and payments, while providing safeguards for final beneficiaries and recipients;

Or. en

Amendment 26
Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 5 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

5 a. Stresses that the EU funds should be used in accordance to the principles of transparency, effectiveness and efficiency; welcomes that the Commission adopted the General regime of conditionality for the protection of the Union's budget; recalls Article 265 TFEU; calls on the Commission to implement the regulation without undue; furthermore calls on the Commission to ensure the protection of the Union's Financial Interests in all dimensions;

Or. en

Amendment 27
Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský, Monika Hohlmeier

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 5 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

5 c. Is concerned about the financial loss caused by generalised deficiencies as regards the rule of law in a number of Member States which render existing complaint and protection mechanisms

void or ineffective;

Or. en

Amendment 28

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 5 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

5 a. Is concerned about the state of rule of law in certain member states and urges the Commission to continue monitoring the situation and initiate the necessary procedures as laid down in the Regulation on the protection of the Union's budget in case of generalized deficiencies as regards the rule of law in the Member States without hesitating;

Or. en

Amendment 29

Monika Hohlmeier, Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský, Arnaud Danjean, Angelika Winzig, Niclas Herbst, Petri Sarvamaa, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 1 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

1 a. Deplores that deficiencies in the validity and comparability of data and reporting technologies with varying degrees of digitalisation in the Member States continue to severely hamper a comprehensive overview over the distribution of EU funds and their efficient control; regrets that the detection of misuse, fraud and embezzlement of EU funds is mostly limited to incidental discoveries by the Commission and the European Court of Auditors (ECA)

during their sample-based audits or investigations by OLAF;

Or. en

Amendment 30

Monika Hohlmeier, Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský, Arnaud Danjean, Angelika Winzig, Niclas Herbst, Andrey Novakov, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 1 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

1 b. Recalls Parliament's call on the Commission to propose regulation for the establishment of an interoperable IT system allowing for uniform and standardised reporting in a timely manner by Member State's authorities in the area of shared management, particularly regarding CAP and cohesion funds, for an earlier detection of systemic errors and misuse as expressed in the discharge report for the Commission for the financial year 2018;

Or. en

Amendment 31

Monika Hohlmeier, Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský, Arnaud Danjean, Angelika Winzig, Niclas Herbst, Andrey Novakov, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 1 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

1 c. Emphasises that such an interoperable IT system would not only allow for an earlier and more efficient detection of misuse, fraud, misappropriations, conflicts of interest, double-funding and other systemic problems but would also allow for a comprehensive overview of the true

distribution of EU funds and potentially unintended concentrations in the hands of few oligarchic or even criminal ultimate beneficiaries; underlines that the lack of information about the ownership structures and beneficial owners of companies and groups of companies significantly contributes to the opaqueness of the current distribution of funds; emphasises again the crucial importance of comprehensive, reliable and comparable data for the efficient, effective and timely control of European spending and the protection of European tax-payers' money;

Or. en

Amendment 32

Katalin Cseh, Olivier Chastel, Ramona Strugariu, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel, Daniel Freund

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 5 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

5 c. Deplores the fact that the implementation of the CAP and the Cohesion Policy in EU Member States has in total 292 reporting systems, which makes the data fragmented and non-comparable, and prevents the effective use of AI and big data to control the funds; deplores the fact that none of the CAP and Cohesion policy reporting systems contains information on the ultimate beneficiaries, that disclosing this information is not legally required, and that not all information on beneficial owners of the companies is available in the national central registers of all Member States; calls on the Commission remedy the situation as a matter of urgency to create a unified reporting system which is updated automatically with comparable and timely data to make the system capable of monitoring,

controlling with the use of AI and big data; calls on the Commission to make the publication of all information on beneficial owners as a legal requirement as a prerequisite for the use of EU funds as a matter of urgency;

Or. en

Amendment 33

Monika Hohlmeier, Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský, Arnaud Danjean, Angelika Winzig, Niclas Herbst, Andrey Novakov, José Manuel Fernandes

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 1 d (new)**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

1 d. Underlines the benefits such an interoperable and digital system would entail for the Member States' authorities with regard to the control and overview of national Parliaments and governments over the allocation, management and distribution of national tax-payer's money in the form of European funds; emphasises that the digitalisation of the European reporting, monitoring and audit is overdue and indispensable given the cross-border nature of misuse, fraud, misappropriations, conflicts of interest, double-funding and other systemic problems;

Or. en

Amendment 34

Monika Hohlmeier, Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský, Arnaud Danjean, Angelika Winzig, Niclas Herbst, Andrey Novakov, José Manuel Fernandes

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 1 e (new)**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

1 e. Reiterates its urgent call on the

Commission to prioritise a proposal for a regulation to establish such a reporting and monitoring IT system that would provide a comprehensive overview over the true distribution of EU funds; acknowledges proposals made by the Parliament and the Commission during the negotiations about the MFF 2021-2027, the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF), the Common Provisions Regulation (CPR) and the CAP; deplores the Council's resistance and refusal to constructively engage in the negotiations for viable compromises; regrets that different rules and reporting requirements were agreed in the different legislations; urges the Commission to propose a suitable provision to be included in the Financial Regulation without undue delay;

Or. en

Amendment 35

Monika Hohlmeier, Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský, Angelika Winzig, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 1 f (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

1 f. Notes that the Early Detection and Exclusion System (EDES), established by Art 135 Financial Regulation should ensure effective sanctions on unreliable persons or entities, and notably the exclusion from award and procurement procedures funded under the EU budget and the imposition of financial penalties; regrets that the database only lists very few economic operators (five as per February 2021); views this as a sign that EDES is not properly implemented;

Or. en

Amendment 36

Monika Hohlmeier, Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský, Angelika Winzig, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 1 i (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

1 i. Calls on the Commission to report to the discharge authority the reasons for why EDES only contains very limited entries; take the necessary action to improve the working, implementation and operability of EDES to ensure that all economic operators that fulfil the criteria of Art 136(1) (c) to (h) of the Financial Regulation are listed; calls further on the Commission to review the criteria with a view to decreasing complexity and increase applicability in practice;

Or. en

Amendment 37

Katalin Cseh, Olivier Chastel, Ramona Strugariu, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel, Daniel Freund, Pascal Durand

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 5 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

5 b. Recalls that Commission established the Early Detection and Exclusion System to reinforce the protection of the Union's financial interests and to ensure sound financial management and to ensure that those companies and beneficial owners cannot benefit from EU funds who have been convicted in relation of fraud or corruption or other criminal activities related to use of Union funds, or against whom at least OLAF issued judicial recommendations to the criminal authorities of the Member States as of 1 January 2016; deplores the fact that this

“EU blacklist” contains only 5 companies at the moment, is of the opinion that this tool could help the EU institutions and national bodies to better fight and prevent corruption and fraud in the Member States; calls therefore on the Commission to improve its use of this tool to connect the blacklist to the OLAF and EPPO and the national databases and create an automated system, which updates this database with reliable and timely information;

Or. en

Amendment 38

Olivier Chastel, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 5 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

5 b. Asks the commission to create an EU black list of companies and their beneficial owners or individuals who have been convicted in relation of fraud or corruption or other criminal activities related to use of Union funds possibly banning them from applying for Union funding for a period of five years, and to scrutinise carefully all their ongoing projects involving the payment of Union Funds

Or. en

Amendment 39

Monika Hohlmeier, Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský, Arnaud Danjean, Angelika Winzig, Niclas Herbst, Petri Sarvamaa, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 1 g (new)

1 g. *Recalls that the discharge report 2018 called on the Commission to provide the discharge authority with a list of the 50 largest individual recipients (natural persons as beneficial owners of a company or of several companies) per Member State as well as a list of the 50 largest recipients (natural persons and legal persons as well as natural persons as owners of companies) of Union-subsidies aggregated across all Member States; acknowledges repeated attempts by the Commission to compile such a list by requesting information from the Member States; deplores that the Commission until the date of this resolution has not been able to provide the list as requested due to a lack of complete, reliable and comparable data provided by the Member States; underlines that this illustrates and emphasises the pressing need for a digital, interoperable reporting and monitoring system for the funds under shared management;*

Or. en

Amendment 40

Monika Hohlmeier, Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský, Angelika Winzig, Niclas Herbst, Andrey Novakov, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 1 h (new)

1 h. *Reiterates its call on the Commission:*

- to remove any technical and legal barriers to the collection of data on company structures and beneficial ownership and establish measures to ensure a digital and interoperable, standardized collection of information on the recipients of Union funding, including on those ultimately benefitting, directly or

indirectly, from Union funding and their beneficial owners;

- to put in place the necessary digital systems and instruments for the compulsory use of all Member States, including but not limited to a single data-mining and risk-scoring tool allowing the Commission, OLAF and where applicable the EPPO, to access and analyse such data on the recipients of Union funding (including their beneficial owners) for the purposes of control and audit, in order to enhance the protection of the Union budget and Next Generation EU against irregularities, fraud and conflicts of interest;

Or. en

Amendment 41

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 1 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

1 a. Encourage the Commission to continue attaching the highest importance to the sound financial management of the EU budget, in particular through putting in place multiannual control strategies designed to prevent, detect and correct errors, as well as to continue carefully monitoring the implementation of the EU budget and to take immediate steps to correct the errors and to recover the funds incorrectly spent by Member States, intermediaries or final beneficiaries;

Or. en

Amendment 42

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 1 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

1 b. Considers, in line with the Commission's endeavour, that it is of utmost importance to strike the right balance between low level of errors, fast payments, reasonable costs of controls and added value of the EU Budget;

Or. en

Amendment 43

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 1 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

1 c. Stresses the crucial role of the EU policies and instruments for their realisation in the areas of cohesion, agriculture and rural development, research and innovations, home affairs and external relations for reducing disparities between Member States and regions, for promoting economic growth and employment, for combating poverty and social exclusion, for upholding and promoting EU values, security and justice for its citizens within the Union and in the wider world;

Or. en

Amendment 44

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 1 d (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

1 d. Welcomes that the Commission, as manager of the EU budget, appropriately tailors its common methodology to the specificities of the risk, control and management environments of the different spending areas, in order to effectively fulfil its reporting obligations and protect the EU Budget;

Or. en

Amendment 45

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 2

Motion for a resolution

2. Points out that Article 61 of the Financial Regulation has provided since August 2018 for an enlarged definition of conflicts of interests; emphasises the Commission's responsibility to ensure that these provisions are implemented with due diligence across the Union, and all forms of conflicts of interests are tackled efficiently and effectively throughout the implementation of the Union budget;

Amendment

2. Points out that Article 61 of the Financial Regulation has provided since August 2018 for an enlarged definition of conflicts of interests; emphasises the Commission's responsibility to ensure that these provisions are implemented with due diligence across the Union, and all forms of conflicts of interests are tackled efficiently and effectively throughout the implementation of the Union budget; *stresses the importance of available public information on final beneficiaries for all EU financial transfers, in order to prevent conflicts of interest in the implementation of EU budget;*

Or. en

Amendment 46

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 2 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

2 a. *Recalls that a number of scandals surrounding the distribution and the misuse of the EU funds in countries such as Bulgaria, Czechia or Slovakia and Romania, triggered massive public protests in recent months and years, with the EU citizens looking to the EU institutions, in particular to the Commission, to ensure the end of such mismanagement of public money;*

Or. en

Amendment 47

Tomáš Zdechovský, Monika Hohlmeier

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 2 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

2 a. *Is concerned about the possible narrow interpretation of the Article 61 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1046 by the Czech Paying Agency (the State Agricultural Intervention Fund) who considers it non-applicable for the members of the Government; urges the Commission to provide its opinion on the interpretation of the said article regarding national Paying Agencies;*

Or. en

Amendment 48

Tomáš Zdechovský, Monika Hohlmeier

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 3 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

3 a. *Calls on the Commission to ensure that Article 61 of Regulation (EU)*

2018/1046 is respected and implemented in the Czech Republic, and applied on all payments from the EU budget, including direct payments under the 1st pillar of CAP, and to monitor the independent functioning of Paying Agencies in this regard;

Or. en

Amendment 49

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 3

Motion for a resolution

3. Reiterates its call on the Commission to ensure proper evaluation of the preventive measures taken by the Member States to avoid conflicts of interests; welcomes, in this regard, the guidelines from the Commission “Guidance on avoidance of conflicts of interest under the Financial Regulation”, distributed to the Member States in August 2020, aiming to promote a uniform interpretation and application of rules concerning conflicts of interests and to raise awareness on the applicability of these rules, including in relation to shared management;

Amendment

3. Reiterates its call on the Commission to ensure proper evaluation of the preventive measures taken by the Member States to avoid conflicts of interests; welcomes, in this regard, the guidelines from the Commission “Guidance on avoidance of conflicts of interest under the Financial Regulation”, distributed to the Member States in August 2020, aiming to promote a uniform interpretation and application of rules concerning conflicts of interests and to raise awareness on the applicability of these rules, including in relation to shared management; ***calls on the Commission to make these Guidelines public and also share the information about the audits carried out on these issues and examples of good practice with both Member States’ authorities and the Committee on Budgetary Control;***

Or. en

Amendment 50

Maria Grapini

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 4

Motion for a resolution

4. Welcomes the new corporate Anti-Fraud Strategy, adopted by the Commission in April 2019, on OLAF's initiative, with the objective of enhancing the Commission's knowledge about fraud and its analytical capability to steer anti-fraud action, to ensure cooperation among departments and executive agencies in fighting fraud, and to strengthen the corporate oversight of the fight against fraud;

Amendment

4. Welcomes the new corporate Anti-Fraud Strategy, adopted by the Commission in April 2019, on OLAF's initiative, with the objective of enhancing the Commission's knowledge about fraud and its analytical capability to steer anti-fraud action, to ensure cooperation among departments and executive agencies in fighting fraud, and to strengthen the corporate oversight of the fight against fraud; ***notes, at the same time, that the increasing use of financial mechanisms for the implementation of Union policies in third countries, together with the Union budget, risks undermining accountability and transparency with regard to Union actions and expenditure; urges the Commission to ensure that external aid is made conditional on respect for the rule of law and human rights in recipient countries; stresses in particular the need to ensure that no Union funding is allocated or related to any terrorist cause or manifestation through the actions of third parties;***

Or. ro

Amendment 51
David Lega

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 4

Motion for a resolution

4. Welcomes the new corporate Anti-Fraud Strategy, adopted by the Commission in April 2019, on OLAF's initiative, with the objective of enhancing the Commission's knowledge about fraud and its analytical capability to steer anti-fraud action, to ensure cooperation among

Amendment

4. Welcomes the new corporate Anti-Fraud Strategy, adopted by the Commission in April 2019, on OLAF's initiative, with the objective of enhancing the Commission's knowledge about fraud and its analytical capability to steer anti-fraud action, to ensure cooperation among

departments and executive agencies in fighting fraud, and to strengthen the corporate oversight of the fight against fraud;

departments and executive agencies in fighting fraud, and to strengthen the corporate oversight of the fight against fraud; ***and notes at the same time that the increasing use of financial mechanisms to deliver Union policies in third countries alongside the Union budget risks undermining the accountability and transparency of Union action and spending; insists that the Commission ensures that the delivery of external aid is subject to the rule of law and respect for human rights in recipient countries; stresses, in particular, the need to guarantee that no Union funds are allocated or linked to any cause or form of terrorism and/or religious and political radicalisation;***

Or. en

Amendment 52

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 4

Motion for a resolution

4. Welcomes the new corporate Anti-Fraud Strategy, adopted by the Commission in April 2019, on OLAF's initiative, with the objective of enhancing the Commission's knowledge about fraud and its analytical capability to steer anti-fraud action, to ensure cooperation among departments and executive agencies in fighting fraud, and to strengthen the corporate oversight of the fight against fraud;

Amendment

4. Welcomes the new corporate Anti-Fraud Strategy, adopted by the Commission in April 2019, on OLAF's initiative, with the objective of enhancing the Commission's knowledge about fraud and its analytical capability to steer anti-fraud action, to ensure cooperation among departments and executive agencies in fighting fraud, and to strengthen the corporate oversight of the fight against fraud; ***calls on the Commission to prepare a follow-up report on the efficiency of its implementation and first results achieved and reports back to the discharge authority;***

Or. en

Amendment 53

Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský, Monika Hohlmeier, Petri Sarvamaa

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 5 d (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

5 d. Underlines that the creation of the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO) marks a fundamental development in the protection of the Union's financial interests; criticizes the underfinancing and understaffing of the EPPO during its build-up phase and reiterates Parliament's opposition towards the reductions of staff in OLAF as a result of posts transferred to EPPO leading to a cumulative reduction of 45 posts by 2023 for OLAF; calls on the Commission to increase the capacities by reviewing staffing situation concerning EPPO and OLAF;

Or. en

Amendment 54

Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 4 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

4 a. Welcomes the major increase of the EPPO's budget and staff with regard to the initial proposal; reminds the Commission the key role of the EPPO in protecting the EU recovery plan in the years to come; calls on the Commission and the budgetary authorities to secure sufficient resources for the EPPO as requested by the European Chief Prosecutor;

Or. en

Amendment 55

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 4 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

4 a. Calls for the budgets of OLAF and EPPO to be increased in order to be able to fulfil their mission

Or. en

Amendment 56

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 4 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

4 a. Notes with concern that in the period between January 2015 and December 2019 there was no decision taken by judicial authorities following OLAF's recommendation in 199 cases and only in 178 cases was any decision taken^{1a}; calls the Member States to properly follow-up all recommendations by OLAF; 1

^{1a} https://ec.europa.eu/anti-fraud/sites/antifraud/files/olaf_report_2019_en.pdf

Or. en

Amendment 57

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 5

Motion for a resolution

5. Endorses the recommendations from the Court of Auditors (the “Court”) and encourages the Commission and other relevant parties to implement them as soon as possible while emphasising some of the most important and urgent recommendations below;

Amendment

5. Endorses the recommendations from the Court of Auditors’ (the “Court”) ***Annual report on the 2019 financial year and the Report of the European Court of Auditors on the performance of the EU budget*** and encourages the Commission and other relevant parties to implement them as soon as possible while emphasising some of the most important and urgent recommendations below;

Or. en

Amendment 58

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 5

Motion for a resolution

5. Endorses the recommendations from the Court of Auditors (the “Court”) and encourages the Commission and other relevant parties to implement them as soon as possible while emphasising some of the most important and urgent recommendations below;

Amendment

5. Endorses the recommendations from the Court of Auditors (the “Court”) and encourages ***strongly*** the Commission and other relevant parties to implement them as soon as possible while emphasising some of the most important and urgent recommendations below;

Or. en

Amendment 59

Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 5 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

5 a. is particularly worried by the conclusions of the Court on the non reliability of data from national authorities which make the data of the Commissions AMPR 2019 non reliable.

Or. en

Amendment 60

Monika Hohlmeier, Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský, Arnaud Danjean, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 5 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

5 a. Is concerned by the Court's repeated findings that the work of some national audit authorities or certifying bodies is considered too error-prone and therefore unreliable; regrets that the Court cannot include an analysis for the underlying reasons for these persisting weaknesses in its work; regrets that neither the Commission could contribute meaningful insights on the reasons and any country-specific differences between Member States' authorities; regrets that this lack of information on the underlying reasons for these persisting, systemic weaknesses in certain national audit authorities hinders efficiently and effectively addressing and solving these problems; calls on the Commission to conduct a thorough analysis of the underlying reasons and structural problems causing the persisting systemic weaknesses identified by the Court; asks the Commission to also include observations on best practice and based on this analysis address clear, practical and readily implementable horizontal as well as country-specific recommendations to the national authorities as described in greater detail in the specific chapters of this resolution;

Amendment 61

Katalin Cseh, Ramona Strugariu, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel, Daniel Freund

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 5 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

5 a. Calls on the Commission to pay increased attention and allocate increased staff and budget of the Commission to Member States, whose management and control systems are only partially or not reliable, where there is an increased risk of fraud and corruption related to funds and especially those Member States who did not join to the European Public Prosecutor's Office;

Or. en

Amendment 62

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 5 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

5 a. Make the utilisation of Arachne as a pre-condition for Member States to use Union Funds;

Or. en

Amendment 63

Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský, Monika Hohlmeier, Petri Sarvamaa

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 5 b (new)

5 b. Stresses that, in view of the Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-2027 and the Recovery and Resilience Facility, the financial resources of the European Union should support the increasing priorities and responsibilities of the Union. The protection of the Union financial interest is of utmost importance and that the strongest effort are necessary at all levels in order to prevent, and to fight against, fraud, corruption and misuse of the Union funds; welcomes the new corporate Anti-Fraud Strategy, adopted by the Commission in April 2019, on OLAF's initiative, with the objective of enhancing the Commission's knowledge about fraud and its analytical capability to steer anti-fraud action, to ensure cooperation among departments and executive agencies in fighting fraud, and to strengthen the corporate oversight of the fight against fraud;

Or. en

Amendment 64

Monika Hohlmeier, Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 5 b (new)

5 b. Underlines that the error rate calculated by the Court is a statistical summary providing a convenient single indicator of the legality and regularity of EU spending, yet, does not provide a differentiated view of the different nature and graveness of errors flowing into it; acknowledges that the Court's methodology is based on international audit standards involving testing of a random sample of transaction and that a representative sample cannot be entirely

risk-based; welcomes that the Court divides its samples into high-risk and low-risk transactions; appreciates that the Court already includes specific examples of the errors found; invites the Court to include even more detailed information with a view to providing in particular more geographical insight into country-specific problems;

Or. en

Amendment 65
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 5 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

5 b. reiterates its serious concerns about the new record level of outstanding commitments, requesting again to the Commission to closely monitor the implementation by Member States in the case of under-implementation and low absorption rates; invites again the Commission to increase the technical support to national, regional or local authorities, including civil society organisations and citizens, in order to get better absorption's rates^{1a};

^{1a} Para 17 of the 2018 discharge resolution

Or. en

Amendment 66
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 5 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

5 c. *Regrets the concentration of the majority of CAP direct payments in the hands of few recipients in some Member States, including where oligarch structures are created, undermining in particular the small farmers and the rural communities;*

Or. en

**Amendment 67
Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 5 d (new)**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

5 d. *recall the need for a fairer distribution of the CAP funds ensuring that they are distributed in a such a manner, that payments per hectare are on a reducing scale relative to the size of the holding/farm;*

Or. en

**Amendment 68
Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 5 e (new)**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

5 e. *is worried about the reported cases of land grabbing in some Member States and reiterates its call on the Commission to put in place an effective control system which would ensure that the beneficiaries entitled to the CAP funds are only those who farm the land and do not reach any beneficiaries who acquired the land by illegal or fraudulent means; in this*

regards reiterates its request for a specific complaint mechanism at Union level to support farmers or beneficiaries confronted, for example, with land-grabbing malpractices, misconduct of national authorities, pressure from criminal structures or organised crime, or persons who are subject to forced or slave labour, giving them the opportunity to swiftly lodge a complaint with the Commission, which the Commission should check as a matter of urgency^{2a}.

^{2a} Para 23 of the 2018 discharge resolution

Or. en

Amendment 69

Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský, Monika Hohlmeier

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 5 e (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

5 e. Is concerned that outstanding commitments have continued to grow, reaching EUR 298,0 billion at the end of 2019 (compared to EUR 281,2 billion in 2018); notes that the level of payment appropriations in the annual budgets has been noticeably lower than the MFF ceiling in recent years, which might lead to higher payment needs in the future; welcomes that the Commission included the estimated future payments in relation to the reinforcements proposed in 2020 as part of the EU coronavirus response in its proposal for the 2021-2027 Multiannual Financial Framework Regulation; calls on the Commission to closely monitor the implementation by Member States in the case of under-implementation and low absorption rates; welcoming the Commission's effort to introduce the n+2 rule for all expenditure areas, stressing

the need for other perspective instruments to replace the n+3 rule;

Or. en

Amendment 70

Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 5 f (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

5 f. Recalls the increasing gap between commitments and payments and the increase in the size of the Union budget (the Court's rapid case review, 'Outstanding commitments - a closer look') which poses a serious challenge for the discharge authority too; notes that the long-term EU budget increased from 1.083 to 1.800 billion Euro for 2021-2027, including the EU Recovery plan Next GenerationEU; calls on the Commission to monitor the implementation of the national recovery and resilience plans at regular intervals to ensure that the state aid rules are fulfilled and report to the discharge authority; stresses that a failure of this request could lead to a refusal of the Discharge procedure in 2020;

Or. en

Amendment 71

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 5 h (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

5 h. Regrets that the possibility to utilise the amounts of unused commitment appropriations and decommitted appropriations under the

Multiannual Financial Framework from 2021-2027 to repay the debt incurred to fund the Recovery Plan, was missed.

Or. en

Amendment 72
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 5 f (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

5 f. *reiterates its concerns that the increase use of financial instrument to deliver EU policies in third countries undermine the level of accountability and transparency of Union action; insists that the Commission ensure that the delivery of external aid is subject to the rule of law and respect for human rights in recipient countries^{3a};*

^{3a} *Para 32 of the 2018 discharge resolution*

Or. en

Amendment 73
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 5 g (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

5 g. *Reminds that development and cooperation policy are meant to eradicate poverty and reduce inequality and should reach only its intended beneficiaries;*

Or. en

Amendment 74
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 5 h (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

5 h. Is particularly worried about Petition number 0655-2020 calling the Parliament to investigate a possible misuse and mismanagement of Union funds by the European Commission through the EUTFA's "Support to Integrated border and migration management in Libya" programme; request a serious investigation into the possible illegal use of European development funds for non-development objectives such as border control;

Or. en

Amendment 75
Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 5 g (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

5 g. Is concerned that the current staffing situation is insufficient to cope with the increasing EU budget; stresses that an increase of the administrative capacities in the Court and the relevant secretariats in the European Parliament is indispensable; stresses if these requirements are not met it can lead to a refusal of the 2020 discharge;

Or. en

Amendment 76
Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 5 h (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

5 h. *Points out that in recent years the level of payment appropriations in the annual budgets has been noticeably below the MFF ceiling, which might lead to higher payment needs in the future and risks putting the budget under pressure;*

Or. en

Amendment 77
Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 5 i (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

5 i. *Draws attention to the fact that the main financial risks to which the EU budget was exposed to in 2019 were associated with financial operations in form of loans covered directly by the EU budget (53,7 %), and financial operations covered by an EU guarantee fund (46,3 %); observes that, when including also the possible future payments relating to the EFSI (European Fund for Strategic Investments) guarantee, the amount of the total risk borne by the EU budget reached up to EUR 90,5 billion by the end of 2019; calls on the Commission to present a complete picture of the exposure of the EU budget in the annual “Report on guarantees covered by the general budget”, including the risk generated by the EFSI guarantee as well as all future financial operations concerned;*

Or. en

Amendment 78

Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 5 j (new)**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

5 j. *Points out that the Union has increasingly made use of financial instruments and budgetary guarantees provided to the EIB Group; recalls that at present, EIB Group operations that are not financed by the Union budget, but which serve the same Union objectives do not fall under the Court's audit mandate;*

Or. en

**Amendment 79
Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský**

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 5 k (new)**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

5 k. *Notes that the Court wants to move towards the attestation approach; calls on the Court to continue with own sampling checks in order to monitor individual transactions;*

Or. en

**Amendment 80
Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský**

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 5 l (new)**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

5 l. *Stresses that the aim of performance information is to provide an indication as to whether Union policies and programmes are achieving their*

objectives efficiently and effectively; suggests that, if improvements are needed, performance information should be used to inform the process of designing necessary corrective measures, and their implementation be continuously monitored; stresses the Commission to reflect on the impact and the achievements of the Union spending programmes and putting more emphasis on results and added value of Union funding by going beyond mere outputs;

Or. en

Amendment 81
Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 5 m (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

5 m. Welcomes that the Court assessed the results of EU programmes; notes that appropriate risk analyzes and recommendations for action to EU policymakers are an important basis for political decision-making; however, is concerned that the large number of output indicators is increasingly expressing preference for certain partisan positions; calls on the Court to focus the performance assessments on achieving European added value and an efficient use of EU tax money;

Or. en

Amendment 82
Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 5 n (new)

5 n. *Is concerned that the Commission uses too many input and output indicators in its performance analysis that are expressing preference for certain partisan positions; asks the Commission to streamline performance reporting by reducing the number of relevant objectives and meaningful indicators it uses for its various performance reports, and focus on those fewer and more appropriate common set of outcome and impact indicators which best measure the results achieved in terms of efficiency, economy and effectiveness of the Union spending;*

Or. en

Amendment 83

Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 5 o (new)

5 o. *Notes that, with regard to the Commission's own estimate of risk at payment, the Court has highlighted certain issues for specific MFF headings:*

- 'Competitiveness': ex-post audits did not mainly cover payments or clearings made in the statement of assurance year under review, and were not always found to be reliable;*
- 'Natural resources': the Member State control reflected in the control statistics did not capture all errors, and adjustments by the Commission were necessary, while the Commission adjustments were generally based on flat rates, and there were limitations in the reliability of the results of the certification bodies' work;*

- ‘Cohesion’: the audit authorities’ checks were not always reliable; calls on the Commission to improve the quality and reliability of national authorities audit work;

- ‘Global Europe’: there was an insufficient number of on-the-spot checks in the countries where projects are implemented, insufficient coverage of relevant aspects of procurement procedures, a broad scope for estimating the impact of individual errors, and a lack of substantive own-testing for transactions already checked by others; calls on the Court to strengthen its independence and improve number of random checks with a risk-based approach so that its reports on error rates pay more attention to areas where problems are most likely to arise;

Or. en

Amendment 84

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 5 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

5 b. Notes that the Court audited transactions worth a total of EUR 126,1 billion (out of EUR 159,1 billion of total Union spending), and that ‘Natural resources’ made up the largest share (47,2 %) of the Court’s overall audit population, followed by ‘Cohesion’ (22,5 %) and ‘Competitiveness’ (13,2 %);

Or. en

Amendment 85

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 5 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

5 c. *Notes that in 2019 the Court provided specific error rates for four MFF headings: ‘Competitiveness’, ‘Cohesion’, ‘Natural resources ’and ‘Administration’; points out that the Court found the highest estimated level of error in spending under ‘Economic, social and territorial cohesion’(4,4 %);*

Or. en

Amendment 86

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 5 d (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

5 d. *Notes that the Court did not estimate levels of error for areas of expenditure under MFF headings 3 ‘Security and citizenship’ and 4 ‘Global Europe’; points out that the provision of error rates would allow comparability between financial years;*

Or. en

Amendment 87

Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution
Subheading 2 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Political reservations

Amendment 88

Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 5 p (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

5 p. Endorses the reservations issued by the directors general of DG BUDG, RTD, AGRI, REGIO,EMPL, MARE, CLIMA, HOME, JUST, NEAR and REFORM in their AAR; is of the opinion that those reservations demonstrate that the control procedures put in place in the Commission and the Member States can only give the necessary guarantees concerning the legality and regularity of the underlying transactions in the corresponding policy areas if all necessary correction procedures are implemented successfully;

Or. en

Amendment 89

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 6 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

6 a. Acknowledges that the financial management of the EU budget has improved over time and that the error levels have decreased to ranges getting closer to the 2% materiality threshold in the recent years, except in some specific policy areas;

Or. en

Amendment 90

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 7

Motion for a resolution

7. ***Deeply regrets, however,*** that for the first time in four years the Court ***had to issue*** an adverse opinion on the legality and regularity of the expenditure underlying the accounts;

Amendment

7. ***Is concerned*** that for the first time in four years the Court ***has issued*** an adverse opinion on the legality and regularity of the expenditure underlying the accounts;

Or. en

Amendment 91

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 7

Motion for a resolution

7. Deeply regrets, however, that for the first time in four years the Court had to issue an adverse opinion on the legality and regularity of the expenditure underlying the accounts;

Amendment

7. Deeply regrets, however, that ***following the worsening trend of the level of error,*** for the first time in four years the Court had to issue an adverse opinion on the legality and regularity of the expenditure underlying the accounts;

Or. en

Amendment 92

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 7 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

7 a. Observes, however, that the Court admits that the overall level of errors has remained relatively stable, at 2,7% in 2019, compared with 2,6% in 2018 and

stresses the positive elements in the EU spending, outlined by the Court, such as the development in natural resources and sustained results in administration;

Or. en

Amendment 93

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 8 – introductory part

Motion for a resolution

8. Notes that the reasons for the adverse opinion are:

Amendment

8. Notes that the reasons for the adverse opinion are: *on EU expenditure is the conclusion of the Court that the level of errors mainly in reimbursement-based payments is pervasive, and that due to the way the EU budget is composed and evolves over time, high risk expenditures in 2019 represents more than half of the audited spending (53,1%), in which the material error continues to be present at an estimated rate of 4,9% (compared to 4,5 % in 2018 and 3,7 % in 2017);*

Or. en

Amendment 94

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 8 – point a

Motion for a resolution

a. *an increase in the most probable error rate for payments, issued by the Court, compared to that of the previous years, as the payments were affected in 2019 by a most probable error rate of 2,7 % (compared to 2,6 % in 2018 and 2,4 % in 2017);*

Amendment

deleted

Amendment 95

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 8 – point b

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

b. that more than half (53,1 %) of the expenditure was materially affected by error, concerning mainly reimbursement-based expenditure, in which the level of error was as high as 4,9 % (compared to 4,5 % in 2018 and 3,7 % in 2017); notes that this increase is largely due to a rise in ‘Cohesion’ spending since expenditure under this field increased to EUR 66,9 billion in 2019; **deleted**

Amendment 96

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 8 – point b

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

b. that more than half (53,1 %) of the expenditure was materially affected by error, concerning mainly reimbursement-based expenditure, in which the level of error was as high as 4,9 % (compared to 4,5 % in 2018 and 3,7 % in 2017); notes that this increase is largely due to a rise in ‘Cohesion’ spending since expenditure under this field increased to EUR 66,9 billion in 2019;

b. more than half (53,1 %) of the expenditure was materially affected by error, concerning mainly reimbursement-based expenditure, in which the level of error was as high as 4,9 % (compared to 4,5 % in 2018 and 3,7 % in 2017); notes that this increase is largely due to a rise in ‘Cohesion’ spending since expenditure under this field increased to EUR 66,9 billion in 2019;

Amendment 97
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 8 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

8 a. *regrets that the Court does not qualify the impact of the corrective measures on the overall level of error, but only on specific headings; underlines that this reduces the quality of the evaluation by the Court and the scrutiny of the Parliament;*

Or. en

Amendment 98
Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 9

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

9. Points *out* that, as in previous years, eligibility errors (namely ineligible costs in costs claims and ineligible projects, activities or beneficiaries) in reimbursement-based payments, where expenditure is often subject to complex rules, were the main contributors to the 2019 estimated level of error for high-risk expenditure at 74% (compared to 68 % in 2018);

9. Points *to the fact* that, as in previous years, eligibility errors (namely ineligible costs in costs claims and ineligible projects, activities or beneficiaries) in reimbursement-based payments, where expenditure is often subject to complex rules, were the main contributors to the 2019 estimated level of error for high-risk expenditure at 74% (compared to 68 % in 2018);

Or. en

Amendment 99
Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 9

Motion for a resolution

9. Points out that, as in previous years, eligibility errors (namely ineligible costs in costs claims and ineligible projects, activities or beneficiaries) in reimbursement-based payments, where expenditure is often subject to complex rules, were the main contributors to the 2019 estimated level of error for high-risk expenditure at 74% (compared to 68 % in 2018);

Amendment

9. Points out that, as in previous years, eligibility errors (namely ineligible costs in costs claims and ineligible projects, activities or beneficiaries) in reimbursement-based payments, where expenditure is often subject to complex rules, were ***again*** the main contributors to the 2019 estimated level of error for high-risk expenditure at 74% (compared to 68 % in 2018);

Or. en

Amendment 100
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 9 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

9 a. Welcomes the Court decision to raise the share of high risk expenditures in its sample, which are materially affected by an ever raising error rate (4,9% in 2019, versus 4.5% in 2018 3.7% in 2017); regrets that the error rate is not clearly quantified for the entitlement payments;

Or. en

Amendment 101
Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 10

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

10. ***Deeply regrets*** that the Commission's particular role, as reflected in its methodology, and weaknesses in ex-

10. ***Takes note of the Court's observation*** that the Commission's particular role, as reflected in its

post checks, which are a critical part of the control system, affects the Commission's estimates of errors;

methodology, and weaknesses in ex-post checks, which are a critical part of the control system, affects the Commission's estimates of errors; ***notes that Commission's risk at payment for 2019, set at 2,1% as reported in its Annual Management and Performance Report (AMPR), is within the range of the ECA's estimated level of error for the three most significant spending areas - competitiveness, cohesion and natural resources;***

Or. en

Amendment 102

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 10

Motion for a resolution

10. ***Deeply*** regrets that the Commission's particular role, as reflected in its methodology, and weaknesses in ex-post checks, which are a critical part of the control system, affects the Commission's estimates of errors;

Amendment

10. Regrets that the Commission's particular role, as reflected in its methodology, and weaknesses in ex-post checks, which are a critical part of the control system, affects the Commission's estimates of errors;

Or. en

Amendment 103

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 10

Motion for a resolution

10. Deeply regrets that the Commission's particular role, as reflected in its methodology, and weaknesses in ex-post checks, which are a critical part of the control system, affects the Commission's

Amendment

10. Deeply regrets that the ***information and reports the Commission receives from Member States' authorities often lack the data on concrete results or include too optimistic assessments, and that***

estimates of errors;

Commission's particular role, as reflected in its methodology, and weaknesses in ex-post checks, which are a critical part of the control system, affects the Commission's estimates of errors;

Or. en

Amendment 104

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 11

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

11. Notes that the Court provided in 2019 specific error rates for four MFF headings: 'Competitiveness', 'Cohesion', 'Natural resources' and 'Administration'; points out that, in 2019, the Court found the highest estimated level of error in spending under 'Economic, social and territorial cohesion' (4,4 %);

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 105

Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 11

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

11. Notes that the Court provided in 2019 specific error rates for *four* MFF headings: 'Competitiveness', 'Cohesion', 'Natural resources' *and* 'Administration'; points out that, in 2019, the Court found the highest estimated level of error in spending under 'Economic, social and territorial cohesion' (4,4 %);

11. Notes that the Court provided in 2019 specific error rates for *three* MFF headings: 'Competitiveness', 'Cohesion', 'Natural resources' *while for* 'Administration' *the Court estimates the level of error to be below the materiality threshold*; points out that, in 2019, the Court found the highest estimated level of error in spending under 'Economic, social and territorial cohesion' (4,4 %), *with*

spending on ‘Competitiveness for growth and jobs’ reaching the worrying error rate of 4% (compared to 2% in 2017);

Or. en

Amendment 106

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 11

Motion for a resolution

11. Notes that the Court provided in 2019 specific error rates for four MFF headings: ‘Competitiveness’, ‘Cohesion’, ‘Natural resources’ and ‘Administration’; ***points out that, in 2019, the Court found the highest*** estimated level of error ***in spending under ‘Economic, social and territorial cohesion’ (4,4 %)***;

Amendment

11. Notes that the Court provided in 2019 specific error rates for four MFF headings: ‘Competitiveness’ ***(4.0%)***, ‘Cohesion’ ***(4,4%)***, ‘Natural resources’ ***(1,9 %)*** and ‘Administration’ ***(an*** estimated level of error ***below the materiality threshold)***;

Or. en

Amendment 107

Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 11 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

11 a. Request the Court to extend its chapter on "Administration" in order to have a more in-depth analysis on all institutions; invites the Court to implement as soon as possible the Parliament request for a specific independent annual report on the Union Institutions; welcome the reflection of the Court on this regards and hope this will be reflected in the Court’s strategy for the 2021-2025 period

Or. en

Amendment 108
Sabrina Pignedoli

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 11 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

11a. Is very concerned that the errors detected are indicative of shortcomings regarding the regularity of expenditure declared by the managing authorities;

Or. it

Amendment 109
Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 12

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

12. Notes that the Court did not estimate levels of error for areas of expenditure under MFF headings 3 ‘Security and citizenship’ and 4 ‘Global Europe’; points out that the provision of error rates would allow comparability between financial years;

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 110
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 12

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

12. Notes that the Court did not estimate levels of error for areas of expenditure under MFF headings 3

12. Notes that the Court did not estimate levels of error for areas of expenditure under MFF headings 3

‘Security and citizenship’ and 4 ‘Global Europe’; points out that the provision of error rates would allow comparability between financial years;

‘Security and citizenship’ and 4 ‘Global Europe’; points out that the provision of error rates would allow comparability between financial years; ***in this regards regrets that the sample for relevant chapter 7 and 8 is further reduced compared to last years (from 11% in 2017 to 9.1% in 2018 to 8,9% in 2019 of the expenditures covered by the audit);***

Or. en

Amendment 111

Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 12

Motion for a resolution

12. Notes that the Court did not estimate levels of error for areas of expenditure under MFF headings 3 ‘Security and citizenship’ and 4 ‘Global Europe’; points out that the provision of error rates would allow comparability between financial years;

Amendment

12. Notes that the Court did not estimate levels of error for areas of expenditure under MFF headings 3 ‘Security and citizenship’ and 4 ‘Global Europe’; points out that the provision of error rates would allow comparability between financial years; ***calls on the Court to provide data on an error rate for payments for each expenditure area in its next annual report;***

Or. en

Amendment 112

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 12 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

12 a. Draws attention that the general estimate of the level of error in the EU budget, as presented in the Court’s Statement of Assurance, is neither a measure of fraud nor of inefficiency or

waste, but it is an estimate of the money that should not have been paid out because it was not used in accordance with the applicable rules and regulations; notes that in 2019 the Court reported to OLAF 9 instances of suspected fraud found during its audits (also 9 in 2018), from which OLAF has opened 5 investigations and decided not to open an investigation in 4 cases;

Or. en

Amendment 113

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 13

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

13. Notes that the Court audited transactions worth a total of EUR 126,1 billion (out of EUR 159,1 billion of total Union spending), and that ‘Natural resources’ made up the largest share (47,2 %) of the Court’s overall audit population, followed by ‘Cohesion’ (22,5 %) and ‘Competitiveness’ (13,2 %);

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 114

Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 13

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

13. Notes that the Court audited transactions worth a total of EUR 126,1 billion (out of EUR 159,1 billion of total Union spending), and that ‘Natural resources’ made up the largest share (47,2

13. Notes that the Court audited transactions worth a total of EUR 126,1 billion (out of EUR 159,1 billion of total Union spending), and that ‘Natural resources’ made up the largest share (47,2

%) of the Court's overall audit population, followed by 'Cohesion' (22,5 %) and 'Competitiveness' (13,2 %);

%) of the Court's overall audit population, followed by 'Cohesion' (22,5 %) and 'Competitiveness' (13,2 %); *reminds its suggestion to the Court to consider both the share of the total EU expenditure and error related risk when deciding the division of the next audit share of population;*

Or. en

Amendment 115

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 13 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

13 a. Acknowledges that the financial management of the EU budget has improved over time and that the error levels have decreased to ranges getting closer to the 2% materiality threshold in recent years, except in some specific policy areas, such as for example competitiveness, which is mostly under direct management by the Commission, where the estimated error rate has doubled from to 2% in 2018 to 4% in 2019;

Or. en

Amendment 116

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 15

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

15. *Regrets* the adoption of three amending budgets *in 2019, adding EUR 0,4 billion to commitment appropriations and EUR 0,3 billion to payment*

15. *Notes* the adoption of three amending budgets *in 2019, which refer to the following;*

appropriations;

Or. en

Amendment 117

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 15 – point i (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

(i) Amending Budget (AB) No1/2019 entered the surplus of EUR 1 802 988 329, resulting from the implementation of the budget year 2018, as revenue in the 2019 budget; this amount has reduced the annual GNI contributions for Member States;

Or. en

Amendment 118

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 15 – point ii (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

(ii) Amending Budget (AB) No 2/2019 provided an additional EUR 100 million of commitment appropriations to Horizon2020 and Erasmus+ as decided by the European Parliament and the Council in their agreement on the budget 2019

Or. en

Amendment 119

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 15 – point iii (new)

(iii) Amending Budget (AB) No 3/2019 entered the necessary commitment and payment appropriations for the mobilisation of the European Union Solidarity Fund (EUSF) amounting to EUR 293 551 794 which aimed to provide assistance to Romania, Italy and Austria following natural disasters that took place in these Member States in the course of 2018:

Or. en

Amendment 120

Joachim Kuhs, Jean-François Jalkh, Matteo Adinolfi

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 15

Motion for a resolution

15. **Regrets** the adoption of three amending budgets in 2019, adding EUR 0,4 billion to commitment appropriations and EUR 0,3 billion to payment appropriations;

Amendment

15. **Takes note of** the adoption of three amending budgets in 2019, adding EUR 0,4 billion to commitment appropriations and EUR 0,3 billion to payment appropriations;

Or. en

Amendment 121

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 15

Motion for a resolution

15. **Regrets** the adoption of three amending budgets in 2019, adding EUR 0,4 billion to commitment appropriations and EUR 0,3 billion to payment appropriations;

Amendment

15. **Points to** the adoption of three amending budgets in 2019, adding EUR 0,4 billion to commitment appropriations and EUR 0,3 billion to payment appropriations;

Amendment 122

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 15

Motion for a resolution

15. ***Regrets*** the adoption of three amending budgets in 2019, adding EUR 0,4 billion to commitment appropriations and EUR 0,3 billion to payment appropriations;

Amendment

15. ***Notes*** the adoption of three amending budgets in 2019, adding EUR 0,4 billion to commitment appropriations and EUR 0,3 billion to payment appropriations;

Or. en

Amendment 123

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 15 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

15 a. Acknowledges that given the multi-annual nature of its expenditure and of its control strategies, the Commission may apply corrections until the closure of the funding programme; notes furthermore that while errors may be detected in a given year, they are corrected in the current or in subsequent years after the payment was made – up until the moment of closure; calls therefore on the Commission and Member States to continue exercising their corrective capacity, and the Commission to use the supervisory tools at its disposal, in line with its obligations under the different sectorial legal bases, in order to bring the real risk at closure ultimately well below 2% and closer to 0%;

Or. en

Amendment 124

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 15 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

15 b. *Notes that in 2019 the corrective measures confirmed by the Commission amounted to EUR 1.5 billion (25% higher than in 2018), relating mainly to errors affecting payments made in previous years.*

Or. en

Amendment 125

Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 16

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

16. ***Regrets*** the fact that outstanding commitments have continued to grow, reaching EUR 298,0 billion at the end of 2019 (compared to EUR 281,2 billion in 2018); notes that the level of payment appropriations in the annual budgets has been noticeably lower than the MFF ceiling in recent years, which might lead to higher payment needs in the future;

16. ***Notes with concern*** the fact that outstanding commitments have continued to grow, reaching EUR 298,0 billion at the end of 2019 (compared to EUR 281,2 billion in 2018); ***notes that the Court has identified the reasons for the continuing rise, such as the overall increase in the size of the EU budget over time***; notes that the level of payment appropriations in the annual budgets has been noticeably lower than the MFF ceiling in recent years, which might lead to higher payment needs in the future; ***notes the commitment of the Commission to conduct a thorough analysis of the payment appropriations needed until the end of the year during the global transfer exercise in order to make a proposal to the budgetary authority if reinforcements are needed***;

Or. en

Amendment 126

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 16

Motion for a resolution

16. ***Regrets*** the fact that outstanding commitments have continued to grow, reaching EUR 298,0 billion at the end ***of 2019*** (compared to EUR 281,2 billion in 2018); notes that the level of payment appropriations in the annual budgets has been noticeably lower than the MFF ceiling in recent years, which might lead to higher ***payment needs in the future***;

Amendment

16. ***Is deeply concerned of*** the fact that outstanding commitments have continued to grow, reaching EUR 298,0 billion at the end ***of 2019*** (compared to EUR 281,2 billion in 2018); notes that the level of payment appropriations in the annual budgets has been noticeably lower than the MFF ceiling in recent years, which might lead to higher ***demands for payments in 2022 and 2023 and poses a serious risk to the liquidity of the EU budget***;

Or. en

Amendment 127

Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 16

Motion for a resolution

16. Regrets the fact that outstanding commitments have continued to grow, reaching EUR 298,0 billion at the end of 2019 (compared to EUR 281,2 billion in 2018); notes that the level of payment appropriations in the annual budgets has been noticeably lower than the MFF ceiling in recent years, which might lead to higher payment needs in the future;

Amendment

16. Regrets the fact that outstanding commitments have continued to grow, reaching EUR 298,0 billion at the end of 2019 (compared to EUR 281,2 billion in 2018); notes that the level of payment appropriations in the annual budgets has been noticeably lower than the MFF ceiling in recent years, which might lead to higher payment needs in the future; ***calls on the Commission to reduce current and prevent further outstanding commitments, to further improve its financial forecasts and, where necessary, to assist countries to find eligible projects, especially those with clear European added-value***;

Amendment 128
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 16

Motion for a resolution

16. Regrets the fact that outstanding commitments have continued to grow, reaching EUR 298,0 billion at the end of 2019 (compared to EUR 281,2 billion in 2018); notes that the level of payment appropriations in the annual budgets has been noticeably lower than the MFF ceiling in recent years, which might lead to higher payment needs in the future;

Amendment

16. Regrets the fact that outstanding commitments have continued to grow, reaching EUR 298,0 billion at the end of 2019 (compared to EUR 281,2 billion in 2018); notes that the level of payment appropriations in the annual budgets has been noticeably lower than the MFF ceiling in recent years, which might lead to higher payment needs in the future ***representing a serious risk for the EU budget, invites the Commission to further assists Member states to find eligible projects in order to accelerate the absorption rate;***

Amendment 129
Isabel García Muñoz, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 17

Motion for a resolution

17. Points out that according to the Court, the overall absorption rate of ESIF (European Structural Investment Funds) was lower than in the corresponding year of the previous MFF, as by the end of 2019, out of the total ESIF allocations for the current MFF (EUR 465 billion), only 40 % had been paid out to Member States (compared with 46 % by the end of 2012); ***notes that only nine Member States had higher absorption rates under the current***

Amendment

17. Points out that according to the Court, the overall absorption rate of ESIF (European Structural Investment Funds) was lower than in the corresponding year of the previous MFF, as by the end of 2019, out of the total ESIF allocations for the current MFF (EUR 465 billion), only 40 % had been paid out to Member States (compared with 46 % by the end of 2012); ***highlights the Commission's explanation that the slower absorption rate is related to***

MFF than under the previous one, and that overall the speed of absorption in 2019 stayed almost exactly the same as in 2018;

the late adoption of the Common Provisions Regulation (CPR), the time needed for authorities to set up an effective delivery programme and compliance systems, and the changes introduced in the regulations in the 2014-2020 programming period, such as the high level of annual prefinancing and the new rule for automatic decommitments (n+3); notes that overall the speed of absorption in 2019 stayed almost exactly the same as in 2018;

Or. en

Amendment 130

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 17

Motion for a resolution

17. Points out that according to the Court, the overall absorption rate of ESIF (European Structural Investment Funds) was lower than in the corresponding year of the previous MFF, as by the end of 2019, out of the total ESIF allocations for the current MFF (EUR 465 billion), only 40 % had been paid out to Member States (compared with 46 % by the end of 2012); notes that only nine Member States had higher absorption rates under the current MFF than under the previous one, and that overall the speed of absorption in 2019 stayed almost exactly the same as in 2018;

Amendment

17. Points out that according to the Court, the overall absorption rate of ESIF (European Structural Investment Funds) was lower than in the corresponding year of the previous MFF, as by the end of 2019, out of the total ESIF allocations for the current MFF (EUR 465 billion), only 40 % had been paid out to Member States (compared with 46 % by the end of 2012); notes that only nine Member States had higher absorption rates under the current MFF than under the previous one, and that overall the speed of absorption in 2019 stayed almost exactly the same as in 2018;
Isvery concerned by the weak level of absorption rates;

Or. en

Amendment 131

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 17

Motion for a resolution

17. ***Points out*** that according to the Court, the overall absorption rate of ESIF (European Structural Investment Funds) was lower than in the corresponding year of the previous MFF, as by the end of 2019, out of the total ESIF allocations for the current MFF (EUR 465 billion), only 40 % had been paid out to Member States (compared with 46 % by the end of 2012); notes that only nine Member States had higher absorption rates under the current MFF than under the previous one, and that overall the speed of absorption in 2019 stayed almost exactly the same as in 2018;

Amendment

17. ***Notes with concern*** that according to the Court, the overall absorption rate of ESIF (European Structural Investment Funds) was lower than in the corresponding year of the previous MFF, as by the end of 2019, out of the total ESIF allocations for the current MFF (EUR 465 billion), only 40 % had been paid out to Member States (compared with 46 % by the end of 2012); notes that only nine Member States had higher absorption rates under the current MFF than under the previous one, and that overall the speed of absorption in 2019 stayed almost exactly the same as in 2018;

Or. en

Amendment 132
Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 17 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

17 a. Recalls that the absorption rate expresses the extent to which EU funds allocated to Member States have been spent on eligible projects, which is one of the preconditions and indications of effective future absorption; stresses, in this regards, that since the end of 2018 the project selection rate remains ahead of the same reference period in 2007-2013; emphasises, furthermore, that by end June 2020, nearly all (99,2%) the EUR 350 billion in total cost were allocated to nearly 515 000 projects;

Or. en

Amendment 133

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 17 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

17 a. Regrets that greater technical assistance is not being put in place to increase the absorption rate in many States and also make it possible to reduce the backlog of outstanding commitments (RAL)

Or. en

Amendment 134

Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 18

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

18. Notes ***furthermore*** that by the start of 2019, after the current MFF had been in place for five years, only approximately ***17*** % of the total ESI funding committed through Financial Instruments under Shared Management (FISMs) had reached its final recipient;

18. Notes that by the start of 2019, after the current MFF had been in place for five years, only approximately ***17%*** of the total ESI funding committed through Financial Instruments under Shared Management (FISMs) had reached its final recipient; ***notes, however, that by mid-September 2020 the 42% of amounts allocated to financial instruments were effectively paid and, therefore, available for investments into final recipients; welcomes, furthermore, that 59% of the available capital for FISMs had reached final recipients or was used for eligible costs;***

Or. en

Amendment 135

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 18

Motion for a resolution

18. Notes furthermore that by the start of 2019, after the current MFF had been in place for five years, only approximately 17 % of the total ESI funding committed through Financial Instruments under Shared Management (FISMs) had reached its final recipient;

Amendment

18. Notes furthermore that by the start of 2019, after the current MFF had been in place for five years, only approximately 17 % of the total ESI funding committed through Financial Instruments under Shared Management (FISMs) had reached its final recipient; ***recalls here repeated scepticism expressed by the Parliament over strong support of the Commission of the financial instruments;***

Or. en

Amendment 136
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 18 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

18 a. Regrets that the annual report for 2019 on the FISMs was published after the deadline defined in the relevant Regulation^{4a}; shares the view of the Court that the relevance of the Commission's reporting on FISMs is reduced because its annual report on FISMs is published too late;

^{4a} Article 46 of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013)

Or. en

Amendment 137

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 19

Motion for a resolution

19. Notes that, as in previous years, substantial amounts of unused annual ESIF pre-financing was returned to the Union budget (EUR 7,7 billion in 2019), ***due mainly to delays in implementation***;

Amendment

19. Notes that, as in previous years, substantial amounts of unused annual ESIF pre-financing, ***due mainly to delays in implementation***, was returned to the Union budget (EUR 7,7 billion in 2019), ***as assigned revenue; points out that EUR 5,0 billion of that amount was used to make payments on claims from Member States over and above the approved budget for the year under the relevant ESIF budget lines, which has prevented them from being cancelled***;

Or. en

Amendment 138

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 19

Motion for a resolution

19. ***Notes*** that, as in previous years, substantial amounts of unused annual ESIF pre-financing was returned to the Union budget (EUR 7,7 billion in 2019), due mainly to delays in implementation;

Amendment

19. ***Is concerned*** that, as in previous years, substantial amounts of unused annual ESIF pre-financing was returned to the Union budget (EUR 7,7 billion in 2019), due mainly to delays in implementation;

Or. en

Amendment 139

Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 19 a (new)

19 a. Acknowledges that shared management is instrumental for the implementation of the ESIF which in turn relays upon an efficient administrative collaboration between the Commission and the Member States; underlines the Court's observation that the risk of error is high for expenditure subject to complex rules; welcomes the substantial improvements in this regard over the last ten years due inter alia to the Commission's efforts and the recommendations of both the Court and the Parliament; encourages the Commission to move towards simplification and performance orientation;

Or. en

Amendment 140

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 20

Motion for a resolution

20. **Notes** that the main financial risks to which the Union budget was exposed to in 2019 were associated with financial operations in form of loans covered directly by the Union budget (53,7 %), and financial operations covered by an Union guarantee fund (46,3 %); observes that, when adding the possible future payments relating to the EFSI (European Fund for Strategic Investments) guarantee, the amount of the total risk borne by the Union budget reached EUR 90,5 billion by the end of 2019;

Amendment

20. **Stresses the fact** that the main financial risks to which the Union budget was exposed to in 2019 were associated with financial operations in form of loans covered directly by the Union budget (53,7 %), and financial operations covered by an Union guarantee fund (46,3 %); observes that, when adding the possible future payments relating to the EFSI (European Fund for Strategic Investments) guarantee, the amount of the total risk borne by the Union budget reached EUR 90,5 billion by the end of 2019;

Or. en

Amendment 141

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 21

Motion for a resolution

21. Calls on the Commission to present a complete picture of the exposure of the Union budget in the annual “Report on guarantees covered by the general budget”, including the risk generated by the EFSI guarantee as well as all future related financial operations ;

Amendment

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 142

Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 22

Motion for a resolution

22. Points out that the Union has increasingly made use of financial instruments and budgetary guarantees provided to the EIB Group; recalls that at present, EIB Group operations that are not financed by the Union budget, but which serve the same Union objectives, do not come under the Court’s audit mandate;

Amendment

22. Points out that the Union has increasingly made use of financial instruments and budgetary guarantees provided to the EIB Group; recalls that at present, EIB Group operations that are not financed by the Union budget, but which serve the same Union objectives, do not come under the Court’s audit mandate; *points out that this means that the Court is unable to provide a complete overview of the links between EIB Group operations and the Union budget; in particular, supports the Court’s request to audit the EIB’s non-Union budget related operations; welcomes the Commission efforts to renew the tripartite agreement between the Commission, the EIB and the Court; requests to agree on a Memorandum of Understanding between the EIB and the Parliament to improve Parliament’s access to EIB documents and data related to strategic orientation*

*and financing policies in order to
strengthen the Bank's accountability;*

Or. en

Amendment 143
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 22 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

22 a. Reiterates its support to the Court request that EIB be subject to an independent external examination of the EIB and for the ECA to be empowered to audit all EIB operations, including evaluating the cost-effectiveness of its investment efforts and the additionality of its projects, and for these audits to be made public'; also calls on the ECA to draw up recommendations on the results of the EIB's external lending activities

Or. en

Amendment 144
Monika Hohlmeier, Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 23

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

23. Notes that the current agreement between the Commission, the EIB and the Court concerning audits of operations which are financed or backed by the Union budget expires in 2020; ***views this an opportunity to ensure that the Court is enabled to audit the regularity and also the performance of the EIB activities, which do not fall under a specific Union mandate;***

23. ***Recalls that Art. 287 (3) TFEU defines the Court's audit powers in relation to the EIB; recalls that the Court is competent to audit the EIB's activity in managing Union expenditure and revenue; recalls that the Audit Committee is competent to audit the EIB's share capital according to Art. 12 of Protocol 5 (Statute of the EIB); recalls that Art 308 (3) TFEU allows the Council to amend***

the Protocol on the Statute of the EIB by simple decision without a full Treaty revision; emphasises the increased importance under the new MFF of EU guarantees and other financial instruments managed by the EIB; calls therefore on the Council to amend Art. 12 of Protocol 5 to give the ECA a role in auditing the EIB's share capital; notes that the current tripartite agreement between the Commission, the EIB and the Court concerning audits of operations which are financed or backed by the Union budget expires in 2020; calls on the Commission, the Court and the EIB to enhance the role of the Court and further strengthen its auditing powers regarding activities of the EIB in the renewal of the tripartite agreement governing the rules of engagement;

Or. en

Amendment 145

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 23

Motion for a resolution

23. Notes that the current agreement between the Commission, the EIB and the Court concerning audits of operations which are financed or backed by the Union budget expires in 2020; **views** this an opportunity to ensure that the Court is enabled to audit the regularity and also the performance of the EIB activities, which do not fall under a specific Union mandate;

Amendment

23. Notes that the current agreement between the Commission, the EIB and the Court concerning audits of operations which are financed or backed by the Union budget expires in 2020; **Strongly calls to take** this an opportunity to ensure that the Court is enabled to audit **on an annual basis** the regularity and also the performance of **all** the EIB activities, which do not fall under a specific Union mandate;

Or. en

Amendment 146

Joachim Kuhs, Jean-François Jalkh, Matteo Adinolfi

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 23

Motion for a resolution

23. Notes that the current agreement between the Commission, the EIB and the Court concerning audits of operations which are financed or backed by the Union budget expires in 2020; views this an opportunity to ensure that the Court is enabled to audit the regularity and also the performance of the EIB activities, which **do not** fall under **a specific Union** mandate;

Amendment

23. Notes that the current agreement between the Commission, the EIB and the Court concerning audits of operations which are financed or backed by the Union budget expires in 2020; views this an opportunity to ensure that the Court is enabled to **have access to information necessary to** audit the regularity and also the performance of the EIB activities, which fall under **its** mandate;

Or. en

Amendment 147

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 23

Motion for a resolution

23. Notes that the current agreement between the Commission, the EIB and the Court concerning audits of operations which are financed or backed by the Union budget **expires** in 2020; views this an opportunity to ensure that the Court **is enabled** to audit the regularity and also the performance of the EIB activities, which do not fall under a specific Union mandate;

Amendment

23. Notes that the current agreement between the Commission, the EIB and the Court concerning audits of operations which are financed or backed by the Union budget **expired** in 2020; views this an opportunity to ensure that **renewed agreement will enable** the Court to audit the regularity and also the performance of the EIB activities, which do not fall under a specific Union mandate;

Or. en

Amendment 148

Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 20

Motion for a resolution

20. Notes that the main financial risks to which the Union budget was exposed to in 2019 were associated with financial operations in form of loans covered directly by the Union budget (53,7 %), and financial operations covered by an Union guarantee fund (46,3 %); observes *that*, when adding the possible future payments relating to the EFSI (European Fund for Strategic Investments) guarantee, the amount of the total risk borne by the Union budget reached EUR 90,5 billion by the end of 2019;

Amendment

20. Notes that the main financial risks to which the Union budget was exposed to in 2019 were associated with financial operations in form of loans covered directly by the Union budget (53,7 %), and financial operations covered by an Union guarantee fund (46,3 %); observes *with regret that the amount of total risk reported by the Commission does not include EFSI related operations, therefore it does not reflect the real financial exposition of the EU budget; highlights that* when adding the possible future payments relating to the EFSI (European Fund for Strategic Investments) guarantee, the amount of the total risk borne by the Union budget reached EUR 90,5 billion by the end of 2019;

Or. en

Amendment 149

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 23 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

23 a. supports the request made by the Court to audit the EIB's non-Union budget related operations

Or. en

Amendment 150

Lara Wolters, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 24 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

24 a. Welcomes the Rule of Law Regulation on a general regime of conditionality for the protection of the Union budget to protect CAP and Cohesion spending; underlines that the Regulation entered into force on 1 January 2021; urges the Commission do its utmost to fully apply the Regulation without delay; recalls that the Parliament can hold the Commission to account with regard to its application of the Regulation, including any unjustified delays, through an action for failure to act under Article 265 TFEU;

Or. en

Amendment 151

Lara Wolters, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 24 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

24 b. Is concerned about the financial loss caused by generalised deficiencies as regards the rule of law in a number of Member states; expects the Commission to employ all instruments at its disposal to suspend, reduce and restrict access to the Union's funding in such cases, including the use of the Rule of Law Regulation;

Or. en

Amendment 152

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 25 – indent 1

Motion for a resolution

- closely follow payment needs and take action, within its institutional remit, with a view to ensuring the availability of payment appropriations taking into account the risk of insufficient payment appropriations and the extraordinary needs arising from the COVID-19 pandemic;

Amendment

- closely follow payment needs, ***prepares possible scenarios with concrete solutions keeping in mind that the Union is not allowed to run on budgetary deficit*** and take action, within its institutional remit, with a view to ensuring the availability of payment appropriations taking into account the risk of insufficient payment appropriations and the extraordinary needs arising from the COVID-19 pandemic;

Or. en

Amendment 153

Joachim Kuhs, Jean-François Jalkh

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 26

Motion for a resolution

26. Requests the Council together with the European Parliament to:

- ***call on the EIB to enable the Court to audit the regularity as well as the performance aspects of its financing activity, which does not fall under a specific Union mandate;***

Amendment

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 154

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 26 – indent 1

Motion for a resolution

- call on the EIB to enable the Court to audit the regularity as well as the performance aspects of its financing

Amendment

- call on the EIB to enable ***each year*** the Court to audit the regularity as well as the performance aspects of its financing

activity, which does not fall under a specific Union mandate;

activity, which does not fall under a specific Union mandate;

Or. en

Amendment 155

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Luke Ming Flanagan, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 26 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

26 a. In its support to the new European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO) calls on the Commission to provide the EPPO with all necessary resources to allow them to work in full capacity while not weakening the work of OLAF; further calls on all EU Member States to join the EPPO and delegate their Prosecutors chosen based on clear and transparent criteria;

Or. en

Amendment 156

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 27

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

27. Welcomes the Court's first separate and full report on the performance of the Union budget – Status at the end of 2019 and encourages the Court to continue to produce and develop this report further in the coming years;

27. Welcomes the Court's first separate and full report on the performance of the Union budget – Status at the end of 2019 and encourages the Court to continue to produce and develop this report further in the coming years; ***reiterates its opinion that a stronger focus on performance is needed without reducing current levels of scrutiny on compliance and conformity; emphasises that performance findings***

should not lead to generalisations but rather country-specific recommendations;

Or. en

Amendment 157

Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 27

Motion for a resolution

27. Welcomes the Court's first separate and full report on the performance of the Union budget – Status at the end of 2019 and encourages the Court to continue to produce and develop this report further in the coming years;

Amendment

27. Welcomes the Court's first separate and full report on the performance of the Union budget – Status at the end of 2019 and encourages the Court to continue to produce and develop this report further in the coming years; *stresses that the aim of performance information is to provide an indication as to whether Union policies and programmes, are achieving their objectives efficiently and effectively; suggests that, if improvements are needed, performance information should be used to inform the process of designing necessary corrective measures, and their implementation be continuously monitored; stresses the Commission to reflect on the impact and the achievements of the Union spending programmes and putting more emphasis on results and added value of Union funding by going beyond mere outputs;*

Or. en

Amendment 158

Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 27 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

27 a. Welcomes that the Court assessed

the results of EU programmes; notes that appropriate risk analyzes and recommendations for action to EU policymakers are an important basis for political decision-making; however, is concerned that the large number of output indicators is increasingly expressing preference for certain partisan positions; calls on the Court to focus the performance assessments on achieving European added value and an efficient use of EU tax money;

Or. en

Amendment 159
Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 27 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

27 b. Is concerned that the Commission uses too many input and output indicators in its performance analysis that are expressing preference for certain partisan positions; asks the Commission to streamline performance reporting by reducing the number of relevant objectives and meaningful indicators it uses for its various performance reports, and focus on those fewer and more appropriate common set of outcome and impact indicators which best measure the results achieved in terms of efficiency, economy and effectiveness of the Union spending;

Or. en

Amendment 160
Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Arnaud Danjean, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 27 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

27 a. Underlines that the performance of EU funds and policies is very difficult to measure and requires different definitions and targeted indicators for the various spending areas and funds; agrees with the findings of the Court that overall indicators need to be further improved and a better balance found between input and output, and result and impact indicators;

Or. en

Amendment 161

Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 28

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

28. Notes that the Court finds that the Commission has satisfactory procedures for the production of its annual management and performance report and programmes' performance overview; agrees with the Court that the Commission should continue to report on programme performance after the end of an MFF period;

28. Notes that the Court finds that the Commission has satisfactory procedures for the production of its annual management and performance report and programmes' performance overview; agrees with the Court that the Commission should continue to report on programme performance after the end of an MFF period, **for at least as long as substantial amounts of payments related to a given MFF period are being made;**

Or. en

Amendment 162

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 28

Motion for a resolution

28. **Notes** that the Court finds that the Commission has satisfactory procedures for the production of its annual management and performance report and programmes' performance overview; agrees with the Court that the Commission should continue to report on programme performance after the end of an MFF period;

Amendment

28. ***underlines*** that the Court finds that the Commission has satisfactory procedures for the production of its annual management and performance report and programmes' performance overview; agrees with the Court that the Commission should continue to report on programme performance after the end of an MFF period;

Or. en

Amendment 163

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 28 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

28 a. Welcomes the Court's observation that the Commission has started making systemic performance assessments and analysis leading to conclusions on the achieving of the programmes' objectives; notes with satisfaction that the Court considers this as a significant positive step towards clearer, more transparent and comprehensive annual reporting on programme performance;

Or. en

Amendment 164

Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 29

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

29. Encourages the Commission to continue to improve the reliability of performance information as a vital tool for

29. Encourages the Commission to continue to improve the reliability ***and accessibility*** of performance information as

assessing the success of programmes; this should include the dissemination of lessons learnt from the Regulatory Scrutiny Board, especially those concerning design and methodology;

a vital tool for assessing the success of programmes; this should include the dissemination of lessons learnt from the Regulatory Scrutiny Board, especially those concerning design and methodology;

Or. en

Amendment 165

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 29

Motion for a resolution

29. Encourages the Commission to continue to improve the reliability of performance information as a vital tool for assessing the success of programmes; this should include the dissemination of lessons learnt from the Regulatory Scrutiny Board, especially those concerning design and methodology;

Amendment

29. Encourages ***deeply*** the Commission to continue to improve the reliability of performance information as a vital tool for assessing the success of programmes; this should include the dissemination of lessons learnt from the Regulatory Scrutiny Board, especially those concerning design and methodology;

Or. en

Amendment 166

Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 29 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

29 a. Is worried about the Court evaluation that the monitoring data from Member States, on which the Commission AMPR and the programmes statements are based, is not fully reliable;

Or. en

Amendment 167
Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 30

Motion for a resolution

30. Strongly supports the recommendation that the Commission should improve explanations concerning the determination of targets and supporting data. Targets should be ambitious but realistic and at the same time measurable on basis of reliable data. Emphasises, at the same time, that result and impact indicators are better suited for performance measurement than input and output indicators;

Amendment

30. Strongly supports the recommendation that the Commission should improve explanations concerning the determination of targets and supporting data. Targets should be ***specific***, ambitious but realistic and at the same time measurable on basis of reliable data. Emphasises, at the same time, that result and impact indicators are better suited for performance measurement ***and allow for a broader impact assessment*** than input and output indicators;

Or. en

Amendment 168
Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 30 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

30 a. Welcomes that the Commission documents the indicator data as well as indicator baselines, milestones and targets that measure progress on programmes 'general and specific objectives in the Annual Programme Statements; calls on the Commission to ensure that these indicator baselines, milestones and targets that could not have been accomplished without EU-funding and represent EU added value concentrate on achieving this;

Or. en

Amendment 169

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 31

Motion for a resolution

31. Calls on the Commission to include in its performance reports greater analysis of the efficiency and economy of programmes when information becomes available, more systematic analysis of the significant external factors affecting programme performance; clear assessments of all the performance indicators reported on as regards whether they are on track to meet their targets; clear and balanced assessments of performance, covering all programme objectives in appropriate detail;

Amendment

31. Calls on the Commission to include in its performance reports greater analysis of the efficiency and economy of programmes when information becomes available, more systematic analysis of the significant external factors affecting programme performance; clear assessments of all the performance indicators reported on as regards whether they are on track to meet their targets; clear and balanced assessments of performance, covering all programme objectives in appropriate detail; ***Urges the Commission to take these measures for the next discharge 2020 due to all programs adopted in the context of the COVID-19 crisis; .***

Or. en

Amendment 170

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 31

Motion for a resolution

31. Calls on the Commission to include in its performance reports greater analysis of the ***efficiency*** and economy of programmes when information becomes available, more systematic analysis of the significant external factors affecting programme performance; clear assessments of all the performance indicators reported on as regards whether they are on track to meet their targets; clear and balanced assessments of performance, covering all

Amendment

31. Calls on the Commission to include in its performance reports greater analysis of the ***effectiveness*** and economy (***cost-effectiveness***) of programmes when information becomes available, more systematic analysis of the significant external factors affecting programme performance; clear assessments of all the performance indicators reported on as regards whether they are on track to meet their targets; clear and balanced

programme objectives in appropriate detail;

assessments of performance, covering all programme objectives in appropriate detail;

Or. en

Amendment 171

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 32

Motion for a resolution

32. Underlines that according to the Financial Regulation, sound financial management implies effectiveness, efficiency and economy, and that the Commission should ensure a focus on all three elements;

Amendment

32. Underlines that according to the Financial Regulation, sound financial management implies effectiveness, efficiency and economy, and that the Commission should ensure a focus on all three elements; ***further notes that the International Audit Guidelines on performance now also include elements like Equality, Environment and Ethics and calls on the Commission to broaden its assessments by also looking into these areas;***

Or. en

Amendment 172

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 32

Motion for a resolution

32. Underlines that according to the Financial Regulation, sound financial management implies effectiveness, efficiency and economy, and that the Commission should ensure a focus on all three elements;

Amendment

32. Underlines that according to the Financial Regulation, sound financial management implies effectiveness, efficiency and economy, and that the Commission ***and the Member States*** should ensure a focus on all three elements;

Or. en

Amendment 173
Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 32 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

32 a. Notes that the Court assessed whether programmes in all main areas of the EU budget were “on track” to meet their objectives:

Or. en

Amendment 174
Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 32 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

32 b. Competitiveness: Welcomes that for the EU’s Horizon 2020 research programme, there are no indications that performance is at risk, and examples of successful projects are plentiful; welcomes that according to the court the programme provides EU added value through its uniqueness and pan-European character;

Or. en

Amendment 175
Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 32 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

32 c. Cohesion: Regrets that although the Commission and Member States had

already revised the initial 2014-2020 targets, just over a third of indicators for the European Regional Development Fund and Cohesion Fund show timely progress. Before the outbreak of the COVID-19 crisis, most employment and education targets were likely to be met by 2020, but progress on R&D, poverty and social inclusion lagged behind; regrets that in this policy area, the Commission's own performance data indicates that the programmes fall short of initial expectations;

Or. en

Amendment 176
Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 32 d (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

32 d. Natural resources: Regrets that a key weakness is that the performance indicators for the 2014-2020 period are not based on a detailed intervention logic for providing CAP financial support. For example, direct payments to farmers have reduced farmers' income volatility, but they are not targeted at helping farmers achieve a fair standard of living; regrets that the CAP measures are found to have an insufficient impact in addressing climate change;

Or. en

Amendment 177
Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 32 e (new)

32 e. Security and citizenship: *Notes that the Commission's reporting does not indicate whether the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund is progressing well towards its objective, but the information available points to its relevance and EU added value; notes that for integration and legal migration, indicators show its achievements in a positive light, also because long-term impacts (such as differences between migrants' and EU nationals' job prospects) cannot yet be assessed;*

Or. en

Amendment 178

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 32 f (new)

32 f. Global Europe: *Notes that the Commission does not provide enough information for a robust performance assessment of two funding instruments, i.e. one for cooperation with developing countries and the other for relations with the EU's southern and eastern neighbours; welcomes that the indicators nevertheless reveal a positive trend for poverty reduction, education, gender equality and human development, and a worsening one on consolidating democracy, rule of law and political stability;*

Or. en

Amendment 179

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 32 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

32 a. Notes that Commission reported in its 2019 Annual Management and Performance Report (AMPR) a risk at payment of 2,1%, which is within the range of the ECA's estimated level of error; notes that for the three most significant spending areas (MFF Heading 1a:competitiveness; MFF Heading 1b: economy, social and territorial cohesion and MFF Heading 2: natural resources), the Commission's own estimates of the level of error are within the ECA's ranges;

Or. en

Amendment 180
Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 34

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

34. Notes that in 2019, the expenditure from the Union budget amounted to EUR 147 billion, distributed over 240 000 payments; points out that 71 % of the budget was implemented under shared management, and the remainder was either spent directly by the Commission (22%) or indirectly in cooperation with entrusted entities (7 %);

34. Notes that in 2019, the expenditure from the Union budget amounted to EUR 147 billion, distributed over **more than** 240 000 payments; points out that 71 % of the budget was implemented under shared management, and the remainder was either spent directly by the Commission (22%) or indirectly in cooperation with entrusted entities (7 %);

Or. en

Amendment 181
Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 35

Motion for a resolution

35. Observes the Commission's estimate that, in 2019, climate-related expenditure amounted to EUR 35 billion, equal to 21 % of the Union budget, and that cumulatively over the 2014-2020 period the **Union budget** will have contributed EUR 211 billion, equal to 19,8 % of total spending, to climate objectives, which falls slightly short of the initial target of 20 % due to lower contributions during the first years of the period;

Amendment

35. Observes the Commission's estimate that, in 2019, climate-related expenditure amounted to EUR 35 billion, equal to 21 % of the Union budget, and that cumulatively over the 2014-2020 period the **Unionbudget** will have contributed EUR 211 billion, equal to 19,8 % of total spending, to climate objectives, which falls slightly short of the initial target of 20 % due to lower contributions during the first years of the period; ***calls on the Commission to do its best to boost climate-related expenditure for the 2014-2020 period with a view to a much more ambitious targets for the 2021 –2028 period;***

Or. en

Amendment 182
Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 37

Motion for a resolution

37. Notes that, according to the Commission, the corrective measures confirmed amounted to EUR 1,5 billion in 2019 (25 % higher than in 2018);

Amendment

37. Notes that, according to the Commission, the corrective measures confirmed amounted to EUR 1,5 billion in 2019 (25 % higher than in 2018); ***points to the fact that some Member States have seen a much more substantive correction amounts than others; calls on the Commission to adopt its audit sample to include these countries in their regular checks on a more frequent basis;***

Or. en

Amendment 183

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 38

Motion for a resolution

38. Observes that, for 2019, the Commission's estimate for the overall risk at closure was at 0,7 % (compared to 0,8 % in 2018) of the relevant expenditure; notes that due to the higher risk at payment in relation to cohesion spending, the overall risk at payment estimated by the Commission was higher than in previous years, at 2,1 % for 2019 (compared to 1,7 % in 2018), but as the estimated future corrections were also higher (1,4 %, compared to 0,9 % in 2018), the Commission arrived at a stable risk at closure, and with an estimate of risk at closure of less than 2 %, ***the Commission considered that its multiannual control systems ensured effective protection of the Union budget; points out furthermore that in the Commission's own estimate, the expenditure with risk at payment above the materiality threshold was very high at EUR 67 billion;***

Amendment

38. Observes that, for 2019, the Commission's estimate for the overall risk at closure was at 0,7 % (compared to 0,8 % in 2018) of the relevant expenditure; notes that due to the higher risk at payment in relation to cohesion spending, the overall risk at payment estimated by the Commission was higher than in previous years, at 2,1 % for 2019 (compared to 1,7 % in 2018), but as the estimated future corrections were also higher (1,4 %, compared to 0,9 % in 2018), the Commission arrived at a stable risk at closure, and with an estimate of risk at closure of less than 2 %;

Or. en

Amendment 184

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 38

Motion for a resolution

38. Observes that, for 2019, the Commission's estimate for the overall risk at closure was at 0,7 % (compared to 0,8 % in 2018) of the relevant expenditure; notes that due to the higher risk at payment in relation to cohesion spending, the overall

Amendment

38. Observes that, for 2019, the Commission's estimate for the overall risk at closure was at 0,7 % (compared to 0,8 % in 2018) of the relevant expenditure; notes that due to the higher risk at payment in relation to cohesion spending, the overall

risk at payment estimated by the Commission was higher than in previous years, at 2,1 % for 2019 (compared to 1,7 % in 2018), but as the estimated future corrections were also higher (1,4 %, compared to 0,9 % in 2018), the Commission arrived at a stable risk at closure, and with an estimate of risk at closure of less than 2 %, the Commission considered that its multiannual control systems ensured effective protection of the Union budget; ***points out furthermore that in the Commission's own estimate, the expenditure with risk at payment above the materiality threshold was very high at EUR 67 billion;***

risk at payment estimated by the Commission was higher than in previous years, at 2,1 % for 2019 (compared to 1,7 % in 2018), but as the estimated future corrections were also higher (1,4 %, compared to 0,9 % in 2018), the Commission arrived at a stable risk at closure, and with an estimate of risk at closure of less than 2 %, the Commission considered that its multiannual control systems ensured effective protection of the Union budget;

Or. en

Amendment 185

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 38 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

38 a. Notes that the Commission subdivides its portfolio for 2019 into lower-risk and higher-risk strata, using criteria recognised also by the Court and related to the nature of the funding, notably the difference between rather complex reimbursement-based schemes (higher risk expenditure with risk at payment above 2%) and fairly straightforward entitlement-based payments (lower risk expenditure with risk at payment below 2%); points out furthermore that the Commission estimates that the higher risk expenditure stands at EUR 67 billion(46%), thus affecting smaller part of the budget than the lower risk expenditure, which stands at EUR 80 billion (54%);

Or. en

Amendment 186

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 38 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

38 a. Observes that the Commission considered that its multiannual control systems ensured effective protection of the Union budget; points out furthermore that in the Commission's own estimate, the expenditure with risk at payment above the materiality threshold was very high at EUR 67 billion; urges the Commission to adopt an ambitious action plan with measures allowing to significantly lower these risks;

Or. en

Amendment 187

Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 38 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

38 a. Requests the Commission make sure that the AMPR is fully reliable and not based on projections;

Or. en

Amendment 188

Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 38 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

38 b. regrets in particular that the Court had to report again concerns about the reliability of the AMPR in the Cohesion areas, because of shortcomings of the audit authorities work and the issues identified regarding the residual error rates reported in the DG EMPL and DG REGIO AARs

Or. en

Amendment 189
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 38 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

38 c. Expresses disagreement with the Commission's evaluation of its methodology in calculating the error rate; despite acknowledging that the risks at payments used in the AMPR by the Commission is the closest to the ECA estimate of level of error, it is to be noted that important elements makes that the error rate by ECA and the Commission hugely differs; therefore reiterates its request to align quickly its methodology to the one used by the Court and to provide the budgetary control authority with only one error rate corresponding to the risk at payment (error rate at payment); calls on the Commission to disclose separately an estimate of the future corrections (residual error rate); urges the Commission to apply a coherent terminology across all DGs when reporting on these two estimates;

Or. en

Amendment 190
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 38 d (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

38 d. Calls on the Commission to take the necessary measures to obtain reliable data from the Member States concerning the error rate at payment; calls on the Commission to make appropriate adjustments in a timely manner if deficiencies are detected in Member States' controls;

Or. en

Amendment 191
Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 39 – introductory part

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

39. **Notes** that, with regard to the Commission's own estimate of risk at payment, the Court has highlighted certain issues for specific MFF headings:

39. **Observes with alert** that, with regard to the Commission's own estimate of risk at payment, the Court has highlighted certain issues **presented in the text below** for specific MFF headings **and urges the Commission to respond to these findings with concrete actions:**

Or. en

Amendment 192
Alin Mituța, Olivier Chastel, Ramona Strugariu, Martina Dlabajová, Katalin Cseh

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 39 – indent 4 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- **Regrets the persisting geographical imbalances in the composition of the Commission staff,**

especially at middle and senior management levels; Calls on the Commission to establish a proper representation of nationals from all Member States, while at the same time respecting the competencies and merits of the candidates like indicated in the Article 27 of the Staff Regulations of Officials;

Or. en

Amendment 193

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 39 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

39 a. Notes the Court's conclusion that the Commission's performance reporting is becoming more balanced and that both the AMPR and the programme statements complement their reporting on programme achievements including information on lagging behind areas and persisting challenges for programmes;

Or. en

Amendment 194

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 39 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

39 a. Encourages the Commission and the ECA to accelerate the discharge process to N+1

Or. en

Amendment 195

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 39 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

39 b. Calls on the Commission to continue promoting a better gender balance and gender budgeting approach in the allocated funds

Or. en

Amendment 196

Sabrina Pignedoli

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 29 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

29a. Stresses the importance of strictly monitoring the possible risk of corruption and fraud in connection with large-scale infrastructural projects; calls for thorough and independent ex-ante and ex-post assessments of projects to be financed;

Or. it

Amendment 197

Sabrina Pignedoli

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 31 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

31a. Urges the Commission to encourage Member States to improve both the quality and number of controls and to share best practices in combating fraud;

Amendment 198

Pascal Durand, Olivier Chastel, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Gilles Boyer, Katalin Cseh, Ramona Strugariu

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 41 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

41 a. Welcomes that the Commission's work on the next EU's financial programming and budget initiated before and throughout 2019 led to the introduction of a legally binding timetable, of new EU-wide streams of revenue, or 'own resources' intended to repay common European borrowing; Recalls the predominance of the Gross National Incomes (GNI) contributions in the EU budget; Stresses that new own resources come at a reduction of the share of national GNI-based contributions in the financing of the Union's annual budget and do not therefore contribute to an overall increase of the EU budget; Urges the Commission to propose a diversification of its revenue sources to ensure the EU becomes truly independent vis-a-vis Member States' contributions while significantly increasing the budget for EU programmes.

Or. en

Amendment 199

Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 42 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

42 a. Welcome the Court decision to assess the EU action taken to reduce the

custom gap, which may affect the amounts of duties established by MS, and mitigate the risk that TOR are not complete, within the examination of internal control systems

Or. en

Amendment 200
Ryszard Czarnecki

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 43

Motion for a resolution

43. Is concerned about weaknesses identified by the Court in the management of established duties not yet collected by national authorities; notes that in the Member States visited by the Court there are particular delays in notifying customs debts (*in Poland*), late enforcement of the recovery of such debts (*in Belgium, Germany and Poland*), and insufficient documentation to confirm the correctness of duties booked in the accounts (*in Germany*);

Amendment

43. Is concerned about weaknesses identified by the Court in the management of established duties not yet collected by national authorities; notes that in the Member States visited by the Court there are particular delays in notifying customs debts, late enforcement of the recovery of such debts, and insufficient documentation to confirm the correctness of duties booked in the accounts;

Or. en

Amendment 201
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 43

Motion for a resolution

43. Is concerned about weaknesses identified by the Court in the management of established duties not yet collected by national authorities; notes that in the Member States visited by the Court there are particular delays in notifying customs debts (in Poland), late enforcement of the

Amendment

43. Is concerned about weaknesses identified by the Court *in the Member States' collection of TOR in particular* in the management of established duties not yet collected by national authorities; notes that in the Member States visited by the Court there are particular delays in

recovery of such debts (in Belgium, Germany and Poland), and insufficient documentation to confirm the correctness of duties booked in the accounts (in Germany);

notifying customs debts (in Poland), late enforcement of the recovery of such debts (in Belgium, Germany and Poland), and insufficient documentation to confirm the correctness of duties booked in the accounts (in Germany);

Or. en

Amendment 202

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 44

Motion for a resolution

44. Takes note of shortcomings in the Member States' management of duties not yet collected, as reported in 15 of the 27 TOR inspection reports issued in 2019 by the Commission (the findings in 10 of these 15 reports were classified as systematic in nature);

Amendment

44. Takes note of shortcomings in the Member States' management of duties not yet collected, as reported in 15 of the 27 TOR inspection reports issued in 2019 by the Commission; ***is of opinion that*** the findings in 10 of these 15 reports ***that*** were classified as systematic in nature ***should be made available to the members of the Parliament's relevant committees;***

Or. en

Amendment 203

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 44 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

44 a. Notes with satisfaction that the Commission is improving its risk assessment for the planning of the inspections and continues to strive to close long outstanding open points rapidly, depending also on Member States' cooperation;

Amendment 204

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 45

Motion for a resolution

45. ***Underlines that*** two main ***systemic*** weaknesses ***concern the*** lack of Union-wide ***standards for*** the performance of customs controls for mitigating the risk of undervalued imports throughout the Customs Union, ***as well the fact that*** Member States ***are not able*** to identify the riskiest economic operators at Union level for post-release audits;

Amendment

45. ***Notes that the Commission's TOR inspections and the Court's work highlighted*** two main weaknesses ***in Member State's controls to reduce the custom gap:***

- lack of Union-wide ***harmonisation of*** the performance of customs controls for mitigating the risk of undervalued imports throughout the Customs Union; ***and***

- ***inability of*** Member States to identify the riskiest economic operators at Union level for post-release audits;

Amendment 205

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 45

Motion for a resolution

45. Underlines that two main systemic weaknesses concern the lack of Union-wide standards for the performance of customs controls for mitigating the risk of undervalued imports throughout the Customs Union, as well the fact that Member States are not able to identify the riskiest economic operators at Union level

Amendment

45. Underlines ***with great concern*** that two main systemic weaknesses concern the lack of Union-wide standards for the performance of customs controls for mitigating the risk of undervalued imports throughout the Customs Union, as well the fact that Member States are not able to identify the riskiest economic operators at

for post-release audits;

Union level for post-release audits; ***points to the considerable loss of the Union's revenue and urges the Commission and the Council to address these issues with great urgency;***

Or. en

Amendment 206

Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 46

Motion for a resolution

46. Notes that, according to the Commission's assessment, 24 of the 28 Member States had partially satisfactory or unsatisfactory control strategies for targeting the undervaluation risks;

Amendment

46. ***Notes, with concern that in its examination of internal control systems both within the Commission and in the Member states, the Court found shortcomings in individual categories of own resources;*** notes that, according to the Commission's assessment, 24 of the 28 Member States had partially satisfactory or unsatisfactory control strategies for targeting the undervaluation risks;

Or. en

Amendment 207

Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 46

Motion for a resolution

46. ***Notes*** that, according to the Commission's assessment, 24 of the 28 Member States had partially satisfactory or unsatisfactory control strategies for targeting the undervaluation risks;

Amendment

46. ***Regrets*** that, according to the Commission's assessment, 24 of the 28 Member States had partially satisfactory or unsatisfactory control strategies for targeting the undervaluation risks, ***bringing the Court to identify important weaknesses in Member States' controls to reduce the customs gap;***

Amendment 208

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 46

Motion for a resolution

46. *Notes* that, according to the Commission's assessment, 24 of the 28 Member States had partially satisfactory or unsatisfactory control strategies for targeting the undervaluation risks;

Amendment

46. *Is alerted* that, according to the Commission's assessment, 24 of the 28 Member States had partially satisfactory or unsatisfactory control strategies for targeting the undervaluation risks;

Or. en

Amendment 209

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 47

Motion for a resolution

47. *Takes into account* the fact that action to identify and select the riskiest importers for post-release audits is limited across the Customs Union because there is no Union-wide accessible database covering all imports effected by economic operators;

Amendment

47. *Points with great concern to* the fact that action to identify and select the riskiest importers for post-release audits is limited across the Customs Union because there is no Union-wide accessible database covering all imports effected by economic operators;

Or. en

Amendment 210

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 47 a (new)

47 a. Acknowledges, however, that the Commission has made important steps to help identifying the riskiest economic operators at EU level for post-release audits, with the flagging of transactions considered to pose financial risk under the Financial Risk Criteria and the update of the Customs Audit Guide;

Or. en

Amendment 211

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 47 b (new)**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

47 b. Welcomes that the Commission works closely with Member States to find solutions to identify importers operating in Member States other than where they are headquartered; calls on it for achieving further progress once an EU-wide database covering all imports is fully available.

Or. en

Amendment 212

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 49**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

49. Points out that of eight long-outstanding VAT reservations set by the Commission and examined by *the* the Court, five of them were related to infringement procedures against Member

49. Points out that of eight long-outstanding VAT reservations set by the Commission and examined by the Court, five of them were related to infringement procedures against Member States on the

States on the grounds of possible non-compliance with the VAT Directive;

grounds of possible non-compliance with the VAT Directive;

Or. en

Amendment 213

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 50

Motion for a resolution

50. Notes that 54 long-outstanding TOR open points verified by the Court out of 122 revealed that the Commission's follow-up and closing of such points took excessive time; ***regrets the fact that*** the Commission ***had not established*** a follow-up system prioritising TOR open points according to significance (either in terms of financial impact, or of systemic significance in the case of non-financial shortcomings);

Amendment

50. Notes ***with concern*** that 54 long-outstanding TOR open points verified by the Court out of 122 revealed that the Commission's follow-up and closing of such points took excessive time; ***urges*** the Commission ***to establish*** a follow-up system prioritising TOR open points according to significance (either in terms of financial impact, or of systemic significance in the case of non-financial shortcomings) ***and report back to the discharge authority***;

Or. en

Amendment 214

Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 50

Motion for a resolution

50. Notes that 54 long-outstanding TOR open points verified by the Court out of 122 revealed that the Commission's follow-up and closing of such points took excessive time; regrets the fact that the Commission had not established a follow-up system prioritising TOR open points according to significance (either in terms of financial impact, or of systemic

Amendment

50. Notes that 54 long-outstanding TOR open points verified by the Court out of 122 revealed that the Commission's follow-up and closing of such points took excessive time, ***showing weaknesses in the follow-up of TOR shortcomings detected in Member States***; regrets the fact that the Commission had not established a follow-up system prioritising TOR open points

significance in the case of non-financial shortcomings);

according to significance (either in terms of financial impact, or of systemic significance in the case of non-financial shortcomings);

Or. en

Amendment 215

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 52

Motion for a resolution

52. ***Regrets*** that, for the fourth year in a row, the Directorate-General for Budgets (DG BUDG) issued a reservation on the value of TOR collected by the United Kingdom, due to that country's failure to make available to the Union budget evaded customs duties on textiles and footwear imports, while the scope of undervaluation fraud had extended further to Union Member States, which results in further potential TOR losses;

Amendment

52. ***Notes*** that, for the fourth year in a row, the Directorate-General for Budgets (DG BUDG) issued a reservation on the value of TOR collected by the United Kingdom, due to that country's failure to make available to the Union budget evaded customs duties on textiles and footwear imports, while the scope of undervaluation fraud had extended further to Union Member States, which results in further potential TOR losses;

Or. en

Amendment 216

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 52 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

52 a. Notes that according the Annual Activity Report (AAR) 2019 by DG BUDG, UK has as of 12 October 2017 started implementing the measures recommended by the Commission, which led to a dramatic reduction of TOR losses in 2018 (error rate below 1%);

Or. en

Amendment 217

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 52 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

52 b. Deplores that UK still refuses to make available to the EU budget the TOR amounts lost during the period 2011 - 2017 amounting to EUR 2.679bn (gross); notes that the UK authorities provided the Commission with a formal reply received on 11 February 2019; notes that after analysing the UK's reply, the Commission referred the case to the CJEU on 7 March 2019; notes that the UK lodged its defence on 24 June 2019, followed by the Commission's reply on 29 August 2019 and a rejoinder by the UK of 20 December 2019; asks the Commission to timely inform the discharge authority of any new developments regarding this case;

Or. en

Amendment 218

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 52 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

52 c. Is deeply concerned by the non-quantifiable reservation maintained for 2019 by DG BUDG, stating that the undervaluation fraud partly moved to other Member States, affecting the collection of TOR to an extent pending final quantification; notes that the Commission has carried out inspections on undervaluation in all Member States and checked how Member States are

organised to address issues of undervaluation, particularly concerning textiles and shoes from China; notes that the Member States' financial responsibility for losses of TOR has been explicitly addressed during these inspections and the corresponding reports; notes that the Commission will follow up and hold Member States financially responsible for TOR any potential losses incurred; is concerned that provisional calculations indicate that the TOR losses in 2019 would reach 1% of the 2019 TOR justifying a reservation in the AAR 2019; asks the Commission to promptly inform the discharge authority about the findings and consequences of its inspections and quantification calculations once finalised;

Or. en

Amendment 219

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 52 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

52 a. Points out the measures regarding the case of TOR collected by the United Kingdom which the Commission took in 2018 (a formal infringement procedure) and 2019 (referral of the Case to the Court of Justice of the EU); notes from the written answers of the Commission for the hearing in CONT on 11 January 2021 that the oral hearing took place on 8 December 2020 and while the date of the final judgment is fully under the discretion of the Court, the Commission does not expect a ruling before summer 2021; notes with satisfaction that BREXIT has no adverse effect on recovery of the claimed amounts as they relate to imports before the end of the transition period;

Amendment 220
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 52 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

52 a. Regrets the dragging out of this process and is worried about the possible recovery of the due amounts from UK after BREXIT;

Or. en

Amendment 221
Sabrina Pignedoli

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 54 – indent 2 – point b a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

ba. simplifying the procedure, including the documentation required for access to funding, without neglecting the principles of audit and monitoring;

Or. it

Amendment 222
Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 57 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

57 a. Points out that the performance of research and innovation policy is difficult to assess as there is a considerable time-lag between funding of projects and results and impacts to materialise; notes

furthermore that reporting in this field is mainly focused on positive achievements instead of critical assessment of results and impact, which may not provide for a realistic picture of the performance as a whole; notes that research as a discipline involves risks as regard the results and a successful outcome cannot always be guaranteed;

Or. en

Amendment 223

Tomáš Zdechovský, Monika Hohlmeier

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 57 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

57 a. Is concerned that a high percentage (in some Member States up to 25 %) of funds from the operational programs destined for the support of SMEs in entrepreneurship and innovations are being paid to large companies instead. Asks the Commission to develop stronger control mechanisms regarding the declarations of applicants for EU funding, as the Supreme Audit Office found that in the period 2014 – 2020, the authorities relied solely on statutory self-declarations about ownership, size and indebtedness of the companies;

Or. en

Amendment 224

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 58

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

58. ***Finds it worrying*** that of the 130 transactions examined, 51 (39 %) contained errors;

58. ***Notes*** that of the 130 transactions examined, 51 (39 %) contained errors;

Or. en

Amendment 225

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 59

Motion for a resolution

59. Is ***deeply*** concerned that based on the 28 errors the Court has quantified, ***the*** estimated level of error ***is 4,0 %***; recalls that this figure is close to the rates the Court found in 2015, 2016 and 2017;

Amendment

59. Is concerned that based on the 28 errors the Court has quantified, ***it*** estimated ***the*** level of error ***for 2019 at 4,0 %, which is an increase compared to 2018 (2%)***; recalls that this figure is close to the rates the Court found in 2015, 2016 and 2017;

Or. en

Amendment 226

Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 59

Motion for a resolution

59. Is deeply concerned that based on the 28 errors the Court has quantified, the estimated level of error is 4,0 %; recalls that this figure is close to the rates the Court found in 2015, 2016 and 2017;

Amendment

59. Is deeply concerned that based on the 28 errors the Court has quantified, the estimated level of error is ***material, being at 4,0 %***; recalls that this figure is close to the rates the Court found in 2015, 2016 and 2017, ***but much higher than in 2018 when the estimated level of error was 2%***;

Or. en

Amendment 227

Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 59

Motion for a resolution

59. Is deeply concerned that based on the 28 errors the Court has quantified, the estimated level of error is 4,0 %; recalls that this figure is close to the rates the Court found in 2015, 2016 and 2017;

Amendment

59. Is deeply concerned that based on the 28 errors the Court has quantified, the estimated level of error is 4,0 %; recalls that this figure is close to the rates the Court found in 2015, 2016 and 2017; ***notes that it's a considerable increase compared to 2018 where the estimated level of error was 2,0%.***

Or. en

Amendment 228
Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 61

Motion for a resolution

61. ***Regrets*** that 60% of errors was made up by 'ineligible direct personnel costs'; underlines that despite efforts at simplification of the rules for declaring personnel costs under H2020, their calculation remains a major source of error in the cost claims; supports the opinion of the Court that the methodology for calculating personnel costs has become more complex in some respects under H2020 and this has increased the risk of error (of the 24 transactions affected by quantifiable errors 23 involved incorrect application of the methodology for calculating personnel costs);

Amendment

61. ***Points with great concern to the fact*** that 60% of errors was made up by 'ineligible direct personnel costs'; underlines that despite efforts at simplification of the rules for declaring personnel costs under H2020, their calculation remains a major source of error in the cost claims; supports the opinion of the Court that the methodology for calculating personnel costs has become more complex in some respects under H2020 and this has increased the risk of error (of the 24 transactions affected by quantifiable errors 23 involved incorrect application of the methodology for calculating personnel costs);

Or. en

Amendment 229
Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu,

Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 61**

Motion for a resolution

61. Regrets that 60% of errors was made up by ‘ineligible direct personnel costs’; underlines that despite efforts at simplification of the rules for declaring personnel costs under H2020, their calculation remains a major source of error in the cost claims; supports the opinion of the Court that the methodology for calculating personnel costs has become more complex in some *respects* under H2020 and this has increased the risk of error (of the 24 transactions affected by quantifiable errors 23 involved incorrect application of the methodology for calculating personnel costs);

Amendment

61. Regrets that 60% of errors was made up by ‘ineligible direct personnel costs’; underlines that despite efforts at simplification of the rules for declaring personnel costs under H2020, their calculation remains a major source of error in the cost claims; supports the opinion of the Court that the methodology for calculating personnel costs has become more complex in some *aspects* under H2020 and this has increased the risk of error (of the 24 transactions affected by quantifiable errors 23 involved incorrect application of the methodology for calculating personnel costs);

Or. en

Amendment 230

Monika Hohlmeier, Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský, Arnaud Danjean, Angelika Winzig, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 61 a (new)**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

61 a. Regrets that complex application rules and lengthy procedures are major hurdles in particular for SMEs, start-ups and first-time applicant that lack significant resources and experience with these application procedures;

Or. en

Amendment 231

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 62

Motion for a resolution

62. ***Finds it very regrettable*** that ‘unlawful/discriminatory selection/award criteria’ accounted for 16% of errors;

Amendment

62. ***Notes*** that ‘unlawful/discriminatory selection/award criteria’ accounted for 16% of errors ***and that ‘ineligible other direct costs (VAT, travel, equipment)’ accounted for 15% of errors;***

Or. en

Amendment 232
Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 62

Motion for a resolution

62. ***Finds it very regrettable*** that ‘unlawful/discriminatory selection/award criteria’ accounted for 16% of errors;

Amendment

62. ***Points with great concern*** that ‘unlawful / discriminatory selection / award criteria’ accounted for 16% of errors;

Or. en

Amendment 233
Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Pascal Durand, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 62 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

62 a. Regrets the lack of concrete data on up take of projects awarded Seals of Excellence by ERDF programmes. Notes that the Commission has only partial information based on voluntary reporting from managing authorities and such schemes remains at the discretion of each county. Calls the Commission to work

with the Member States under the new MFF, to improve programmes monitoring systems and to better capture this kind of information;

Or. en

Amendment 234

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 63

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

63. Similarly, finds it very regrettable that ‘ineligible other direct costs (VAT, travel, equipment)’ accounted for 15% of errors;

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 235

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 63

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

63. Similarly, finds it very *regrettable* that ‘ineligible other direct costs (VAT, travel, equipment)’ accounted for 15% of errors;

63. Similarly, finds it very *worrying* that ‘ineligible other direct costs (VAT, travel, equipment)’ accounted for 15% of errors;

Or. en

Amendment 236

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 65

Motion for a resolution

65. ***Underlines*** that SMEs are more error-prone than other beneficiaries since more than half the quantifiable errors found (17 out of 28) involved funding for private beneficiaries, even though the transactions in question accounted for just 42 (32 %) of the 130 transactions in the sample (SMEs made up 12 % of the sample but accounted for 21 % of the quantifiable errors);

Amendment

65. ***Notes with concerns*** that SMEs are more error-prone than other beneficiaries since more than half the quantifiable errors found (17 out of 28) involved funding for private beneficiaries, even though the transactions in question accounted for just 42 (32 %) of the 130 transactions in the sample (SMEs made up 12 % of the sample but accounted for 21 % of the quantifiable errors);

Or. en

Amendment 237

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Arnaud Danjean, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 65**

Motion for a resolution

65. Underlines that SMEs are more error-prone than other beneficiaries since more than half the quantifiable errors found (17 out of 28) involved funding for private beneficiaries, even though the transactions in question accounted for just 42 (32 %) of the 130 transactions in the sample (SMEs made up 12 % of the sample but accounted for 21 % of the quantifiable errors);

Amendment

65. Underlines that SMEs are more error-prone than other beneficiaries since more than half the quantifiable errors found (17 out of 28) involved funding for private beneficiaries, even though the transactions in question accounted for just 42 (32 %) of the 130 transactions in the sample (SMEs made up 12 % of the sample but accounted for 21 % of the quantifiable errors); ***underlines that this reflects their lack of resources and familiarity with the complex eligibility rules;***

Or. en

Amendment 238

Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 65 a (new)**

65 a. *Notes with concern that the Court found weaknesses in the Commission's documentation of the audit work done, sampling consistency and reporting, as well as in the quality of the audit procedures in some of the files reviewed; points out that the Court found, inter alia, ineligible amounts that the auditors had not detected because of insufficient testing in their audit (mainly in respect of personnel costs), erroneous interpretation of the double-ceiling rule, and errors in the underlying calculation of personnel costs that had not been detected; in that connection supports the recommendations from the Court to improve the situation;*

Or. en

Amendment 239

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 66

66. *Notes* that 22 of the research projects the Court audited had been conducted in currencies other than the euro, meanwhile the exchange rate applied in ten of these projects was not the one stipulated in the rules (the financial effect of such errors is not in itself material, but their frequency demonstrates a lack of awareness of the rules);

66. *Draws attention to the fact* that 22 of the research projects the Court audited had been conducted in currencies other than the euro, meanwhile the exchange rate applied in ten of these projects was not the one stipulated in the rules (the financial effect of such errors is not in itself material, but their frequency demonstrates a lack of awareness of the rules); *calls on the Commission to work together with Member States to pay a greater attention to this issue;*

Or. en

Amendment 240

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 67 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

67 a. Notes that research expenditure reimbursements based on claims submitted for costs incurred by the beneficiaries; notes that these claims are often subject to complex rules and can lead to errors as may be observed in the cases referred to by the ECA;

Or. en

Amendment 241

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 67 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

67 b. Considers therefore that reducing the error rate depends on a continuous simplification effort; welcomes the ECA's acknowledgement of the Commission's efforts to simplify the administrative and financial requirements of Horizon 2020;

Or. en

Amendment 242

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 67 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

67 c. Acknowledges, to this end, that in the last stages of its implementation of Horizon 2020, the Commission is making

wider use of simplified cost options such as lump sum funding strengthening its communication with beneficiaries and constantly improving its control mechanisms; Welcomes that Horizon Europe Programme will take these a step further, building on the experience acquired in Horizon 2020;

Or. en

Amendment 243

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 67 d (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

67 d. Notes the Commission's introduction of a sound system of ex-ante controls, which includes detailed automated checklists, written guidance and continuous training with the objective of reducing administrative burden allowing beneficiaries to focus on achieving their goals;

Or. en

Amendment 244

Sabrina Pignedoli

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 67 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

67a. Considers that there is a lack of clear and exhaustive programme performance assessment procedures that would, for spending review purposes, make it possible to identify programmes with no clear added value; calls on the Commission to include in the annual management and performance report a

detailed assessment indicating which programmes are not being properly implemented;

Or. it

Amendment 245

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Arnaud Danjean, Niclas Herbst, Petri Sarvamaa, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 68 – indent -1 (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

-1 calls on the Commission to further simplify rules and procedures, provide practical and pragmatic guidance and improve its assistance for SMEs, start-ups and other first-time applicants to level the playing field among applicants with varying level of experience and resources;

Or. en

Amendment 246

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 68 – indent 1

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- conduct more targeted checks on SMEs' cost claims and enhance its information campaign regarding H2020 funding rules, with particular focus on these important beneficiaries;

- enhance its information campaign regarding H2020 funding rules and declaration of personnel costs, paying specific attention to the main types of error followed by carrying out targeted checks on their compliance with the rules;

Or. en

Amendment 247

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 68 – indent 1 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- ***increase and develop information and training sessions for applicants with a focus on new applicants for whom training should be mandatory***

Or. en

Amendment 248
Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 68 – indent 2

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- ***remind all H2020 beneficiaries of the rules for the calculation and declaration of personnel costs, paying specific attention to the main types of error;*** ***deleted***

Or. en

Amendment 249
Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 68 – indent 4

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- address for H2020 the observations that arose following the Court's review of the ex post audits with regard to documentation, sampling consistency and the quality of audit procedures; as well as
- address for H2020 the observations that arose following the Court's review of the ex post audits with regard to documentation, sampling consistency and the quality of audit procedures; as well as

for the third round of contracted out audits, take appropriate measures to ensure that the auditors are fully aware of the H2020 rules, and verify the quality of their work;

for the third round of contracted out audits, take appropriate measures to ensure that the auditors are fully aware of the H2020 rules, and verify the quality of their work;
And verify the quality of their work

Or. en

Amendment 250

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 68 – indent 4 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *address the acute problem of geographical un-balance (concentration) of the majority of H2020 funds awarded to beneficiaries in few most-developed Member States by tackling the source of the problem in less developed countries, i.e. by supporting the research, industry - universities cooperation, universities' cooperation with governments in public policy-making, the establishment of new university programmes, academia excellence, etc.;*

Or. en

Amendment 251

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 68 – indent 4 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *To focus on the rules of the calculation and declaration of personal costs in the communication campaign related to Horizon 2020*

Or. en

Amendment 252

Tomáš Zdechovský, Monika Hohlmeier

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 68 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

68 a. Urges the Commission to cooperate with Member States in order to adjust the conditions set by the national authorities for receiving subsidies for larger projects, as currently most of CAP funding benefits large companies; calls on the Commission to issue recommendations and align these conditions so that they are better harmonized across the EU, while respecting national specificities;

Or. en

Amendment 253

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 68 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

68 a. Welcomes that the Court assessed the results of EU programmes; notes that appropriate risk analyzes and recommendations for action to EU policymakers are an important basis for political decision-making; however, is concerned that the large number of output indicators is increasingly expressing preference for certain partisan positions; calls on the Court to focus the performance assessments on achieving European added value and an efficient use of EU tax money;

Or. en

Amendment 254
Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 68 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

68 b. *Is concerned that the Commission uses too many input and output indicators in its performance analysis that are expressing preference for certain partisan positions; asks the Commission to streamline performance reporting by reducing the number of relevant objectives and meaningful indicators it uses for its various performance reports, and focus on those fewer and more appropriate common set of outcome and impact indicators which best measure the results achieved in terms of efficiency, economy and effectiveness of the Union spending;*

Or. en

Amendment 255
Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 70

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

70. Underlines that in context of the indicator for specific objective 5 ‘share of participating firms introducing innovations new to the company or the market’ the programme statement mentions neither milestones nor a target for this indicator; therefore, it cannot be used to assess whether the programme is on track, ***thereby lowering this indicator’s usefulness;***

70. Underlines that in context of the indicator for specific objective 5 ‘share of participating firms introducing innovations new to the company or the market’ the programme statement mentions neither milestones nor a target for this indicator; therefore, it cannot be used to assess whether the programme is on track; ***calls on the Commission to update the programme statement so that it’ll include specific and measurable targets to allow***

for an assessment of efficiency and effectiveness;

Or. en

Amendment 256
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 71 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

71 a. Takes note of the Court Conclusions on the Performance of Horizon 2020, in particular:

- The information available is too limited to be able to fully assess the performance of Horizon 2020 at the end of 2019; nevertheless there is no indication that performance is at risk and examples of successful projects are plentiful;**
- In contrast to effectiveness, information on the programme’s relevance, coherence and EU added value is available to a considerable degree. There is a strong case that Horizon 2020 is relevant, as it is addressing the needs it is supposed to address;**
- The AMPR addresses the performance of Heading 1a only in a very general manner;**

Or. en

Amendment 257
Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 71 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

71 a. Reiterates its concern about the very imbalanced allocation of funds to

researchers across Member States via Horizon 2020;

Or. en

Amendment 258

Ádám Kósa

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 72 – indent 3 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *to evaluate whether the projects designed by the Commission and (co-) financed from the EU budget in relation to the 2010-2020 European Disability Strategy have fulfilled the requirements set out in the corresponding UN convention (the UNCRPD) regarding persons with disabilities with particular focus on the projects of the Horizon 2020 Program,*

Or. en

Amendment 259

Ádám Kósa

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 72 – indent 3 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *ensure that during the design and implementation stages of projects, the additionally incurred costs of persons with disabilities are fully covered by the grants, and to guarantee that the adequate monitoring arrangements are in place and that their fulfilment is safeguarded,*

Or. en

Amendment 260

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 72 – indent 7

Motion for a resolution

- further simplify tools and guidance for SMEs (in such a way that they impose a minimal burden on SMEs, and especially on start-ups without the resources and staff to deal with their complexity);

Amendment

- further simplify tools, **administration** and guidance for SMEs (in such a way that they impose a minimal burden on SMEs, and especially on start-ups without the resources and staff to deal with their complexity);

Or. en

Amendment 261

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 72 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

72 a. Welcomes that the Court assessed the results of EU programmes; notes that appropriate risk analyzes and recommendations for action to EU policymakers are an important basis for political decision-making; however, is concerned that the large number of output indicators is increasingly expressing preference for certain partisan positions; calls on the Court to focus the performance assessments on achieving European added value and an efficient use of EU tax money;

Or. en

Amendment 262

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 72 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

72 b. Is concerned that the Commission uses too many input and output indicators in its performance analysis that are expressing preference for certain partisan positions; asks the Commission to streamline performance reporting by reducing the number of relevant objectives and meaningful indicators it uses for its various performance reports, and focus on those fewer and more appropriate common set of outcome and impact indicators which best measure the results achieved in terms of efficiency, economy and effectiveness of the Union spending;

Or. en

Amendment 263

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 73 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

73 a. Observes that, according to the Court, EFSI is on track to reach its targets, and in particular, the main target to mobilise EUR 500 billion of investment;

Or. en

Amendment 264

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 76 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

76 a. *Regrets that the Commission has not properly assessed the risk of a ‘Dead weight’ of financing in cases where the needed investment could have been financed from other sources without involvement of EFSI funds;*

Or. en

Amendment 265

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 79 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

79 a. *Observes that the Commission and the EIB have missed the opportunity to use the EFSI funds to further promote a shift from investments in big-scale infrastructure projects to smaller, modern, more sustainable projects while mostly trying just to revamp the EU's economic growth with little consideration about the future potential of these investments; points to some good examples of such investments in smaller -scale projects the EIB supported outside the EU;*

Or. en

Amendment 266

Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 79 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

79 a. *Take notes of the Court evaluation that EFSI reinforced some EU*

*programme but temporary overlapped
with others;*

Or. en

Amendment 267

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 80 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

80 a. Recalls the need EIB to provide clear and accessible information on the economic, social and environmental impact and added value achieved by EFSI funded projects; stresses that the additionally assessment of all EFSI-supported projects should be duly documented;

Or. en

Amendment 268

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 81 – indent 2

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- encourage complementarity between Union financial instruments and Union budgetary guarantees (in the context of the new MFF programmes, the Commission should propose that the Union financial instruments are coherent and complementary in terms of the respective policy objectives to be achieved, so as to avoid competition between instruments);

- encourage **deeply** complementarity between Union financial instruments and Union budgetary guarantees (in the context of the new MFF programmes, the Commission should propose that the Union financial instruments are coherent and complementary in terms of the respective policy objectives to be achieved, so as to avoid competition between instruments);

Or. en

Amendment 269

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 81 – indent 3

Motion for a resolution

- improve the assessment of whether potential EFSI projects could have been financed from other sources (the EIB should assess at the appraisal stage of the project the likely replacement of other sources of finance. The EIB should use this information in assessing the eligibility of EFSI operations.);

Amendment

- improve the assessment of whether potential EFSI projects could have been financed from other sources, ***like the so-called loss due to the 'Deadweight'***, (the EIB should assess at the appraisal stage of the project the likely replacement of other sources of finance. The EIB should use this information in assessing the eligibility of EFSI operations.);

Or. en

Amendment 270

Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 82 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

82 a. Recall the important role of the spending under MFF heading 1b "economic, social and territorial cohesion", which focuses on reducing development disparities between the different Member States and regions of the EU and strengthening all regions' competitiveness

Or. en

Amendment 271

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 83 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

83 a. Notes that preventive measures undertaken by DG REGIO in 2019 brought positive results and there was no necessity of suspending ERDF and CF payments in 2019 since the programme authorities applied the required remedial action plans on time and interruptions for 16 payments amounting EUR 1.1 billion (out of 20 amounting to EUR 1.2 billion) were waived; notes furthermore that DG REGIO was able to close 12 out of 19 warning letters for corrective measures for cases of system deficiencies due to the implementation of the necessary exit points;

Or. en

Amendment 272

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 83 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

83 b. Welcomes the positive follow up undertaken by the Commission to implement the Court's recommendation from 2018 Annual Report and the started drafting of Closure Guidelines aiming to ensure that proper closure arrangements for the 2014-2020 period will be available in due time and in any case well before the closure in 2025;

Or. en

Amendment 273

Andrey Novakov, Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution

Subheading 15 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Monitoring and control systems: storing and recording of data and digitalisation of reporting

Or. en

Amendment 274

Andrey Novakov, Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 83 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

83 a. Recalls the interinstitutional agreement between the European Parliament and the Council; to enhance the protection of the Union budget and Next Generation EU against irregularities including fraud; calls for the introduction of standardised measures to collect, compare and aggregate information and figures on the final beneficiaries of Union funding, for the purposes of control and audit;

Or. en

Amendment 275

Andrey Novakov, Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 83 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

83 b. Notes, that the collection of data on those ultimately benefitting, directly or indirectly, from Union funding under shared management and for projects and reforms supported by the Recovery and Resiliency Facility, including data on beneficial owners of the recipients of the funding, is necessary to ensure effective

controls and audits. The rules related to the collection and processing of such data should comply with applicable data protection rules.

Or. en

Amendment 276

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 84

Motion for a resolution

84. ***Finds it worrying that on basis of the 236 transactions examined, 29 errors had not been detected by audit authorities and 64 errors had previously been found by audit authorities and corrections applied by programme authorities (amounting to a total of EUR 334 million for both programming periods taken together), the Court estimates the level of error to be 4,4 %;***

Amendment

84. ***Notes the decrease in the estimated level of error for the Economic, social and territorial cohesion identified by the Court for 2019 (4.4%) compared to those for 2018 (5.0%) while the expenditure audited by the Court was higher in 2019 (EUR28.4 billion) than in 2018 (EUR 23.6 billion); Notes that of the 236 transactions examined, 29 errors had not been detected by audit authorities and 64 errors had previously been found by audit authorities and corrections applied by programme authorities (amounting to a total of EUR 334 million for both programming periods taken together); notes further that these errors concerned ineligible costs (39), public procurement (24) and missing supporting documentation (one error)***

Or. en

Amendment 277

David Lega

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 84

Motion for a resolution

84. Finds it **worrying** that on basis of

Amendment

84. Finds it **deeply concerning** that on

the 236 transactions examined, 29 errors had not been detected by audit authorities and 64 errors had previously been found by audit authorities and corrections applied by programme authorities (amounting to a total of EUR 334 million for both programming periods taken together), the Court estimates the level of error to be 4,4 %;

basis of the 236 transactions examined, 29 errors had not been detected by audit authorities and 64 errors had previously been found by audit authorities and corrections applied by programme authorities (amounting to a total of EUR 334 million for both programming periods taken together), the Court estimates the level of error to be 4,4 %;

Or. en

Amendment 278

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 85

Motion for a resolution

85. Notes that audit authorities had reported 64 quantifiable errors in the assurance/closure packages for the 236 transactions the Court sampled, these errors concerned ineligible costs (39), public procurement (24) and missing supporting documentation (one error);

Amendment

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 279

Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 85 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

85 a. Notes that the risk at closure was estimated at 1,1 % (1,3 % in 2018), and the risk at payment increased from 1,7 % in 2018 to a range between 2,2 - 3,1 % in 2019 for this expenditure area according to the Commission;

Or. en

Amendment 280

Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 85 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

85 b. Notes that for ERDF the risk at payment increased from 2 % in 2018 to a range between 2,7 - 3,8 % in 2019, and for ESF, the risk at payment was estimated in the range of 1,7 - 2,4 %; points out that the Commission found that ineligible expenditure, public procurement irregularities and audit trail issues are the main sources of audit findings and irregularities identified in this policy field;

Or. en

Amendment 281

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 86

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

86. Regrets the fact that 55 % of errors were made up by ‘Ineligible projects’; notes that there were five ERDF projects, from the 2014-2020 programming period, for which aid was granted to beneficiaries or operations that did not meet the eligibility conditions set out in the applicable regulation and OPs;

86. Notes with concern that the majority of the errors are related to three main categories:

Or. en

Amendment 282

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 86 – indent 1 (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- ***55 % of errors were made up by ‘Ineligible projects’: there were five ERDF projects, from the 2014-2020 programming period, for which aid was granted to beneficiaries or operations that did not meet the eligibility conditions set out in the applicable regulation and OPs;***

Or. en

Amendment 283
Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 86 – indent 2 (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- ***24 % of errors were made up by ‘Infringements of internal market rules’ (such as infringements of state aid rules - 9% and serious on-compliance with public procurement rules - 15%);***

Or. en

Amendment 284
Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 86 – indent 3 (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- ***12% of errors were made up by ‘Ineligible expenditure’;***

Or. en

Amendment 285

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 86 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

86 a. stresses that complex rules contribute to a higher risk of error; acknowledges the Commission's efforts to continuously working on simplifying rules and increasing the use of simpler delivery mechanisms such as simplified cost options;

Or. en

Amendment 286

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 87

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

87. Regrets that 24 % of errors were made up by 'Infringements of internal market rules'(9% - infringements of state aid rules; 15 % - serious non-compliance with public procurement rules); **deleted**

Or. en

Amendment 287

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 88

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

88. Regrets that 12% of errors were made up by 'Ineligible expenditure'; **deleted**

Or. en

Amendment 288

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 89

Motion for a resolution

89. Is very concerned about the weaknesses found in the work of several audit authorities covered by the Court's sample, which currently limit the reliance that can be placed on that work (the recalculated rate was above the 2 % materiality threshold in nine out of 20 assurance packages for the 2014-2020 period, the Commission adjusted the residual error rates for eight assurance packages to a figure above 2 %);

Amendment

89. Is very concerned about the weaknesses found in the work of several audit authorities covered by the Court's sample, which currently limit the reliance that can be placed on that work (the recalculated rate was above the 2 % materiality threshold in nine out of 20 assurance packages for the 2014-2020 period, the Commission adjusted the residual error rates for eight assurance packages to a figure above 2 %); ***regrets that the Court cannot include an analysis for the reasons for these persisting weaknesses in its work; regrets that neither the Commission could contribute meaningful insights on the reasons and any country-specific differences between Member States' authorities; regrets that this lack of information on the underlying reasons for these persisting, systemic weaknesses in certain national audit authorities hinders efficiently and effectively addressing and solving these problems;***

Or. en

Amendment 289

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 89

Motion for a resolution

89. Is ***very*** concerned about the weaknesses found in the work of ***several*** audit authorities covered by the Court's

Amendment

89. Is concerned about the weaknesses found in the work of ***18 out of 116*** audit authorities ***in the Member States*** covered

sample, which currently limit the reliance that can be placed on that work (the recalculated rate was above the 2 % materiality threshold in nine out of 20 assurance packages for the 2014-**2020 period**, the Commission adjusted the residual error rates **for eight assurance packages** to a figure above 2 %);

by the Court's sample, which currently limit the reliance that can be placed on that work (the recalculated rate was above the 2 %materiality threshold in nine out of 20 assurance packages for the 2014-**2020period; notes the Court observation that** the Commission **arrived at similar results for eight of these packages and** adjusted the residual error rates to a figure above 2 %);

Or. en

Amendment 290

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 89

Motion for a resolution

89. Is **very** concerned about the weaknesses found in the work of several audit authorities covered by the Court's sample, which currently limit the reliance that can be placed on that work (the recalculated rate was above the 2 % materiality threshold in nine out of 20 assurance packages for the 2014-2020 period, the Commission adjusted the residual error rates for eight assurance packages to a figure above 2 %);

Amendment

89. Is **highly** concerned about the weaknesses found in the work of several audit authorities covered by the Court's sample, which currently limit the reliance that can be placed on that work (the recalculated rate was above the 2 % materiality threshold in nine out of 20 assurance packages for the 2014-2020 period, the Commission adjusted the residual error rates for eight assurance packages to a figure above 2 %);

Or. en

Amendment 291

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 89 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

89 a. Notes that the Commission reports, in the Annual Management and

Performance Report and in the Annual Activity Reports of the concerned Directorates-General, an error range for cohesion policy, which is within the error range calculated by the ECA;

Or. en

Amendment 292

Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 90

Motion for a resolution

90. Notes that for 120 of the sampled transactions (55 %), the Court was able to conclude on the basis of its review of audit authorities' work; is deeply concerned that the Court identified shortcomings with the scope, quality and/or documentation of that work in 100 transactions (45 %), which required the Court to re-perform the corresponding audit procedures;

Amendment

90. Notes, *while assessing the work of 18 out of 116 audit authorities in 2019*, that for 120 of the sampled transactions (55 %), the Court was able to conclude on the basis of its review of audit authorities' work; is deeply concerned that the Court identified shortcomings with the scope, quality and/or documentation of that work in 100 transactions (45 %), which required the Court to re-perform the corresponding audit procedures;

Or. en

Amendment 293

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 93 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

93 a. Shares the Court's welcoming of the Commission's and audit authorities' joint initiative and coordinated efforts to improve the documentation of audit authorities work and the elaboration of a 'Reflection paper on audit documentation' in December 2019, which, although not mandatory,

Amendment

represents a first step in improving the way audit authorities perform and document their work;

Or. en

Amendment 294
Sabrina Pignedoli

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 93 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

93a. Believes that EU financial interests and money from all its taxpayers are being targeted by organised crime and calls on the Commission to take necessary measures against criminal networks that are laying their hands on EU funding;

Or. it

Amendment 295
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 93 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

93 a. reiterates its dissatisfaction about the different use of methodologies by the Court and the Commission when establishing their respective opinion on the legality and regularity of financial transactions

Or. en

Amendment 296
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 93 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

93 b. regrets that the Commission is not respecting the deadlines set in the relevant Regulation^{7a} when it comes to the publication of the annual report on "Financial instruments under the ESI Funds"; reiterates the Parliament's request to publish the report by October in order to include its findings in the discharge procedure; expect the Commission to respond positively to this specific request in order to increase transparency;

^{7a} Article 46 of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013)

Or. en

Amendment 297

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Subheading 16 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

ECA Review 04/2020 EU action to tackle the issue of plastic waste

Or. en

Amendment 298

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 93 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

93 a. Notes that while not an audit report, this review examined the EU's approach to the issue of land-based plastic waste as set out in the 2018 Plastics Strategy;

Or. en

Amendment 299

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 93 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

93 b. Takes note of the Court's observations, in particular:

- that Member State waste management infrastructure development is supported funded through cohesion policy instruments; expenditure of EUR 1 bn for the current programming period 2014-2020 is low compared to the EUR 4.4 bn that were budgeted but it is not known how much of this will be budgeted or used to improve plastics recycling capacity;

- that Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) schemes for packaging, which seek to make producers financially and organisationally responsible for the management of their products once they become waste, are widespread in all Member States with varying coverage but wide disparities in levels of efficiency exist; generally, EPR schemes promote lighter packaging but not recyclability, reflecting that most EPR schemes require producers to pay fees according to the weight of the plastic packaging they place on the market; this is compounded by the fact that Essential Requirements for packaging have been found to be unenforceable in practice by a study for the Commission;

- that the implementation of legal requirements is considered satisfactory,

but wide discrepancies and margin of error exist in Member State's data reporting; inaccurate estimates may be due to insufficient incentives for correct reporting, exclusion of small producers from data reporting, existence of free-riders, incomplete coverage of online sales and cross-border purchases, exclusion from the calculation of reusable packaging put on the market for the first time; a 2018 study on waste statistics commissioned by the Commission shows that a significant margin of error is due to leeway in the interpretation of legally binding obligations, insufficient verification of data, wide variation in calculation methods and verification procedures and lack of incentives for accurate reporting;

- that the illegal disposal of plastic waste is a serious and complex crime; illegal waste disposal is linked to organized crime and money laundering and is one of the most lucrative illegal markets in the world, on a par with human trafficking and illegal drugs and firearms trade, due to the low risk of prosecution and low fines;

- that the update of the Basel convention, which came into effect on 1 January 2021, will reduce the export from the EU to non-OECD countries of plastic packaging waste for recycling, these exports represent almost 30% of reported plastic packaging recycling in the EU, the result will be increased demand for, and pressure on, domestic recycling capacity and a risk of increased illegal waste disposal, this at the same time the EU target for recycling plastic waste is increasing;

Or. en

Amendment 300

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 93 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

93 c. *Is concerned by the Court's observations that the EU's legal framework to tackle waste crime is marked by shortcomings consisting of lack of data on contaminated sites as well as on sanctions and prosecution rates, difficulties in determining which behaviour constitutes environmental crime due to legal uncertainties such as the definition of waste versus end-of-waste, failure of EU legal acts to address the growing involvement of organised criminal groups in environmental crime, which is then associated with other crimes such as money laundering, absence of harmonised EU rules on the mix of sanctions (administrative/criminal/ civil), lack of specialised police forces, prosecutors' offices and judges to deal with environmental crime;*

Or. en

Amendment 301

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 93 d (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

93 d. *Notes that chemical recycling can encompass many different technologies, which are not yet a technologically or economically feasible waste treatment option while landfilling is set to be dramatically reduced; is of the opinion that recycling capacities need to be drastically increased to improve the technological and economic feasibility of recycling; is convinced that increasing the capacity of legal disposal of plastics waste for producers of plastic packaging to meet*

*their obligation under the EPR schemes
will have a positive impact on the problem
of illegal waste trafficking and other
waste crimes;*

Or. en

Amendment 302

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 93 e (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

*93 e. Welcomes the own resource based
on non-recycled plastic packaging waste
as a good instrument to incentivise
Member States to improve recycling;
highlights in this regard the need for
proper reporting;*

Or. en

Amendment 303

Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution

Subheading 16 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

*Serious irregularities and misuse of funds
in member states*

Or. en

Amendment 304

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 93 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

93 a. *Regrets that the correlation between EGF cost per assisted worker and the reintegration rate is very weak or non-existent. For example, in Spain the cost/worker is 2,422.74 EUR and the reintegration rate is 48%, while in Finland the cost is 2,289.81/person and the rate of reintegration is 83%. The integration rates and the costs greatly vary by Member States, however, it is impossible to conclude the higher amounts spent per capita would translate into higher reintegration rates. Asks the Commission to carefully analyse and address this discrepancy;*

Or. en

Amendment 305

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 93 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

93 b. *Considers that the EU Youth Guarantee falls short of expectations; calls on the Commission to ensure that programmes designed to help young people do not raise expectations which cannot be fulfilled; insists that the Commission should manage expectations by setting realistic and achievable objectives and targets;*

Or. en

Amendment 306

Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 93 c (new)

93 c. Notes that in 2019, DG EMPL issued 16 warning letters, when significant deficiencies in the management and control system have been identified. 12 decisions to interrupt payment deadlines have been taken (4 for Italy, 3 for Hungary, 2 for the UK and France and 1 for Spain) and one decision has been taken to suspend payments (UK-Scotland);

Or. en

Amendment 307

Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 93 d (new)

93 d. Notes that significant reservations were issued for Italy (15 reservations, amounting to EUR 50.26 million) and France (9 reservations, amounting to EUR 47.95 million). In case of Italy this was mainly due to the to a systemic deficiency in public procurements resulting from the wrong transposition of the public procurement directive by the national legislation, while in France the regional control bodies did not have enough time to finalise their audits of operations within the deadline in the case of 5 programmes;

Or. en

Amendment 308

Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 93 e (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

93 e. *Notes that the total amount of financial corrections performed for the accounting year 2018- 2019 by the Member States was EUR 3.41 billion, of which 912 million fell on Hungary, 578 million on Spain, 368 million on Slovakia and 236 million on Poland. As regards financial corrections reported cumulatively since the beginning of the period 2014-2020 by the Member States the total amount was 6.10 billion, of which 2.15 billion fell on Hungary, 668 million on Spain, 647 million on Poland and 459 million on Slovakia;*

Or. en

Amendment 309

Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 93 f (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

93 f. *Is worried about the durability of ERDF co-financed investments in infrastructure; regrets that projects have been repurposed after a few years; considers the concept of durability as an important safeguard for the effective and efficient use of Union resources under cohesion policy; calls on the Commission to ensure that the sustainability of investments is guaranteed for a longer period;*

Or. en

Amendment 310

Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 93 g (new)

93 g. Notes with concern that the Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy (DG REGIO), in its 2019 Annual Activity Report, had to issue two reservations concerning 67 programmes ERDF/CF in the 2014-2020 programming period, and 9 ERDF/CF and one IPA-CBC programmes in the 2007-2013 programming period; points out that serious deficiencies in the management and control systems leading to a risk to expenditure estimated above 10 % for the Multiannual Framework 2014-2020; welcomes that the updated Financial regulation has further clarified the concept of conflict of interests under shared management;

Or. en

Amendment 311

Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 93 h (new)

93 h. Is concerned that the Directorate-General for Employment (DG EMPL), in its 2019 Annual Activity Report, had to issue a reservation concerning the ESF / Youth Employment Initiative (YEI) and Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived (FEAD) (30 programmes in ESF / YEI and FEAD) 2014-2020 period; notes since the two DGs stated in their Annual Activity Reports that no reservations are made where the confirmed residual error rate for the previous accounting year was above 2 % because additional financial corrections would be applied in the future, the Commission's reservations are mostly based on provisional rates and might not

necessarily cover all material risks;

Or. en

Amendment 312
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Subheading 16 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Czech Republic

Or. en

Amendment 313
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 93 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

93 c. Is particularly worried that the European Commission finalised an auditing procedure which has confirmed serious breach of conflict of interest legislation in Czech Republic

Or. en

Amendment 314
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 93 d (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

93 d. Notes with concerns that the DG REGIO audit report identified three grants under the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) that breached

Czech law and the EU's common provisions regulation for the ERDF; Is worried that Conflict of interest was identified in the management of the disbursement of the European Structural Funds;

Or. en

Amendment 315
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 93 e (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

93 e. Expects the Commission to inform the Parliament and the Committee on Budgetary Control on the Czech government repose to the recommendations included in the report; Is worried that the 3 months from the audit report is translated into Czech deadlines has already passed, with no development from the Commission

Or. en

Amendment 316
Monika Hohlmeier, Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 94 – indent -1 (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

-1 conduct a thorough analysis of the underlying reasons and potential structural problems causing the persisting systemic weaknesses detected by the Court in its audits every year and pay special attention to any potential country-specific differences; asks the Commission to also include observations on best practice in

national authorities with low levels of errors and whose work is deemed reliable by the Court; asks the Commission to conduct this analysis in close cooperation with the Court and actively involve national authorities both regarding the problem description and potential solutions;

Or. en

Amendment 317

Monika Hohlmeier, Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 94 – indent -1 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

-1 a -share the results of this analysis with the Court, the discharge authority and Member States;

Or. en

Amendment 318

Monika Hohlmeier, Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 94 – indent -1 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

-1 b based on this analysis, address clear, practical and readily implementable horizontal as well as country-specific recommendations to the national authorities; asks the Commission to establish a structured dialogue with the national authorities and the Court to continuously work on capacity building and exchange of best practice to improve the reliability of national audit authorities' work; keep the discharge

*authority informed about the progress of
this dialogue;*

Or. en

Amendment 319

**Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu,
Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer**

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 94 – indent 1

Motion for a resolution

- clarify eligibility conditions
(including by defining what is meant by
‘physically completed’ and/or ‘fully
implemented’ operations, in order to help
Member States to verify that operations
comply with Article 65(6) of the CPR and
avoid the non-detection of ineligible
operations);

Amendment

- clarify ***fastly*** eligibility conditions
(including by defining what is meant by
‘physically completed’ and/or ‘fully
implemented’ operations, in order to help
Member States to verify that operations
comply with Article 65(6) of the CPR and
avoid the non-detection of ineligible
operations);

Or. en

Amendment 320

**Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu,
Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer**

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 94 – indent 1 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- ***Calls on the Commission to
provide Parliament with an annual report
setting out in detail the contribution of
each budget item to the climate
mainstreaming target and to biodiversity
spending, in order to facilitate their
monitoring;***

Or. en

Amendment 321

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Pascal Durand, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 94 – indent 1 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- ***Calls on the Commission urgently to start working on an effective methodology, where relevant, and in accordance with sectoral legislation, for monitoring climate spending and its performance in view of achieving an overall target of at least 30 % of the total amount of the 2021-2027 Union budget and Next Generation EU(NGEU) expenditures supporting climate objectives;***

Or. en

Amendment 322

Andrey Novakov, Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 94 – indent 2 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- ***calls on the Commission and the Member States to put in use a single integrated, interoperable information and monitoring system including a single data-mining and risk-scoring tool to access and analyse the relevant data and increase control reliability, with a view to a generalised application, including with the help of the Technical Support Instrument.***

Or. en

Amendment 323

Sabrina Pignedoli

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 94 – indent 2 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *introduce a Union-wide complaints mechanism for funding recipients confronted by misconduct on the part of the national authorities or pressure from criminal networks or organisations, for example, enabling them to register complaints with the Commission;*

Or. it

Amendment 324
Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 94 – indent 2 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *continue consistently and extensively cooperating with the audit authorities to ensure robust control framework, improve the quality of the assurance work when needed and ensure the necessary detection and corrective capacities;*

Or. en

Amendment 325
Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 94 – indent 2 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *to require managing authorities to take action to tackle the most frequent errors and mitigate any risk for future*

expenditure and improve, where necessary, the detection capacities of both management verifications and audits;

Or. en

Amendment 326
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 94 – indent 2 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *provide an error rate at payments and not residual error rate in order to improve the evaluation of the scrutiny;*

Or. en

Amendment 327
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 94 – indent 2 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *continue its cooperation with the Court in order to further align audit methodologies and interpretation of legal texts.*

Or. en

Amendment 328
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 94 – indent 2 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *pay increased attention, and*

allocate increased technical support, to Member States, whose management and control systems are only partially reliable, or not reliable, where there is an increased risk of fraud and corruption related to funds

Or. en

Amendment 329
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 94 – indent 2 d (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *pay particular attention to framework agreements awarded through public procurement procedures, as fraud and corruption related to them represent an increased risk for the financial interests of the Union.*

Or. en

Amendment 330
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 94 – indent 2 e (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *reduce the backlog in commitments as swiftly as possible.*

Or. en

Amendment 331
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 94 – indent 2 f (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *specify in the AARs how the amounts effected by ex post financial corrections imposed by Member States and by the Commission were reused, particularly in those cases where fraud, corruption or other criminal activity was involved.*

Or. en

Amendment 332
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 94 – indent 2 g (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *publish the 2020 annual report on the "Financial instruments under the ESI Funds" without delay, and by October 2021 in order to allow its findings to be included into the discharge procedure;*

Or. en

Amendment 333
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 94 – indent 2 h (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *develop a strong strategy against conflicts of interest of high-level politicians; develop together with the Member States effective legal instruments to avoid fostering oligarch structures drawing on Union cohesion funds;*

Or. en

Amendment 334
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 94 – indent 2 i (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- ***inform the Parliament on any further developments in the conflict of interest case reported in the DG REGIO Audit Report on Czech Republic;***

Or. en

Amendment 335
Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 94 – indent 2 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- ***draw on the Court's observations on plastic waste for the review of Directive 2008/99/EC particularly with regards to minimum standards and clear definitions of different waste crimes;***

Or. en

Amendment 336
Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 94 – indent 2 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- ***address the problem of the lack of capacity for recycling and incineration as a means to reduce waste crimes, such as waste trafficking by increasing capacity for legal disposal of plastic waste and its economic attractiveness for producers of***

plastics waste;

Or. en

Amendment 337

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 94 – indent 2 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *improve the definition of recycling and the requirements for reporting on recycling, particularly for the own resource based on non-recycled plastic packaging waste; asks the Commission to assess the possibility for digitalising the reporting and monitoring of waste flows between operators to increase the ability to detect irregularities and indications for waste trafficking;*

Or. en

Amendment 338

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 94 – indent 2 d (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *analyse in close cooperation with the responsible national authorities the reasons behind the low absorption of funds available for waste management infrastructure and inform the discharge authority about the findings; inform the discharge authority about how the Commission is assisting Member States in increasing the absorption rate and explore further avenues of assistance;*

Or. en

Amendment 339

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 94 – indent 2 e (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *inform the discharge authority of any reallocation of cohesion funding from funds intended to support recycling and waste management to other areas as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic;*

Or. en

Amendment 340

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 94 – indent 2 f (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *prioritise as a matter of urgency the review of Essential Requirements for packaging in order to accelerate the adaptation of plastic packaging design and manufacturing in favour of recyclability and sustainability in time to support the achievement of the 2025 plastic packaging recycling target;*

Or. en

Amendment 341

Ádám Kósa

Motion for a resolution

Subheading 18

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Performance: the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) *and* the

Performance: the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), the Cohesion

Amendment 342

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 94 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

94 a. *Based on the fact that the majority of all found errors were made up by 'Ineligible projects' stresses its serious concern on the trustfulness and the reliability of Commission's reporting on the results achieved since all these and such (yet undiscovered) projects should not in any way 'contribute' to the overall assessment of the broader results achieved with the help of EU's Economic, social and territorial cohesion policy; recommends that the Commission reassesses its process of reporting on the actual results achieved;*

Or. en

Amendment 343

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 94 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

94 a. *Is astonished that there was no initiation of procedures to reduce the programme allocations through net corrections in 2019, as reported in DG REGIO 2019 AAR; calls on the Commission to systematically impose net financial corrections when the conditions*

set by Article 145(7) of the Common Provisions Regulation are fulfilled;

Or. en

Amendment 344
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 94 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

94 a. Recalls that the ERDF and the CF support the EU's economic, social and territorial cohesion policy (EU cohesion policy), which aims to strengthen economic and social cohesion within the EU by reducing gaps in the level of development between different regions;

Or. en

Amendment 345
Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 94 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

94 b. Welcomes that the Court assessed the results of EU programmes; notes that appropriate risk analyzes and recommendations for action to EU policymakers are an important basis for political decision-making; however, is concerned that the large number of output indicators is increasingly expressing preference for certain partisan positions; calls on the Court to focus the performance assessments on achieving European added value and an efficient use of EU tax money;

Or. en

Amendment 346

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 94 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

94 a. Invites the Commission to continue providing guidance and support, as well as to identify and disseminate good practices to Member States;

Or. en

Amendment 347

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 94 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

94 c. Is concerned that the Commission uses too many input and output indicators in its performance analysis that are expressing preference for certain partisan positions; asks the Commission to streamline performance reporting by reducing the number of relevant objectives and meaningful indicators it uses for its various performance reports, and focus on those fewer and more appropriate common set of outcome and impact indicators which best measure the results achieved in terms of efficiency, economy and effectiveness of the Union spending;

Or. en

Amendment 348

Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 95 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

95 a. *Notes with concern that years after the launch of the 2014-2020 programming period just above one third of the 72 programme indicators for ERDF and CF were on track, even though a number of the targets had been revised downwards; recalls the recommendation to further improve the Key Performance Indicators; notes, however, that limitations in data prevent the auditors from making a comprehensive assessment of performance in this policy field, as it is difficult to assess whether the funds have met, or are likely to meet, the general and specific objectives set, even though the progress of the individual indicators can be assessed against the milestones and targets set; calls on the Commission to develop a consistent assessment framework that is able to assess whether the milestones and targets of ERDF and CF have been met;*

Or. en

Amendment 349

Olivier Chastel, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 95 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

95 a. *is concerned about the problems raised by the Court of Auditors concerning the lack of internal controls in the Member States or the unreliability of data*

Or. en

Amendment 350

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 95 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

95 b. Regrets that not all Member States are using the Arachne data mining system to improve fraud detection; Points out that concerning fraud, both the Commission and the Member States are responsible for addressing fraud in Cohesion spending. They need to step up their efforts to prevent and detect fraud, in cooperation with EPPO and the anti-fraud office (OLAF)

Or. en

Amendment 351

Lara Wolters

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 96 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

96 a. Notes in this respect the Commission audit procedure involving Czech Prime Minister Babis; regrets the delay in reaching conclusions for the procedure; urges the Commission to strengthen its efforts to comprehensively and quickly resolve the procedure, report back to Parliament on its conclusions and where necessary suspend and/or retrieve misused funding; recalls the Parliament resolution on the conflict of interest of the Czech Prime Minister of June 19th 2020, which states that if the conflict of interest of Mr. Babis is confirmed, it should either be resolved or he should resign from public his duty^{1a};

Or. en

Amendment 352

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 96 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

96 a. Is pleased to see that in its first Annual Report on performance by the end of 2019 the Court gives ERDF programme performance overview as a positive example of clearly formulated conclusions on general objective; encourages DG REGIO to continue to present clear conclusions in the performance sections both for general and specific objectives, and invites other DGs to follow this good example and to improve their conclusions by making them more informative and clearer;

Or. en

Amendment 353

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 97

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

97. Points out that information from output and result indicators is complemented by the results of a number of evaluations and studies analysing the results of the 2007-2013 period and the early stages of programming and implementation of the 2014-2020 cohesion policy programmes; **regrets** that the

97. Points out that information from output and result indicators is complemented by the results of a number of evaluations and studies analysing the results of the 2007-2013 period and the early stages of programming and implementation of the 2014-2020 cohesion policy programmes; **shares the**

delayed timing of these evaluations means that lessons learned are too late to have an impact on either the current or subsequent programming periods (the results of *the 2014-2020* ex-post evaluations, for example, are expected to be available by the end of 2025 as required by the CPR, but by then the 2021-2027 programming period will be in its fifth year and the Commission is likely to be *well advanced* in preparing its legislative proposals for the post-2027 period);

observation of the Court that the delayed timing of these evaluations *as designed in the legislation* means that lessons learned are too late to have an impact on either the current or subsequent programming periods (the results of *the 2014-2020* ex-post evaluations, for example, are expected to be available by the end of 2025 as required by the CPR, but by then the 2021-2027 programming period will be in its fifth year and the Commission is likely to be *well-advanced* in preparing its legislative proposals for the post-2027 period);

Or. en

Amendment 354

Ádám Kósa

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 97 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

97 a. *Points out, that the error rates reported by the Commission in the AARs for the ERDF, CF and ESF are within the error range calculated by the ECA, for ERDF and CF, the error range is between 2,7 % and 3,8 % and for ESF between 1,7 % and 2,4 %.*

Or. en

Amendment 355

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 98

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

98. *Is deeply concerned that for the 2007-2013 period, an ex post evaluation of the ERDF/CF was designed to draw*

deleted

conclusions on the overall impact of the programmes and to draw qualitative overall conclusions, it did not draw conclusions on the achievement of objectives or targets; moreover, neither did it systematically analyse synergies between ERDF/CF funding and the implementation of Union sectoral policies, which would have helped to shed light on cohesion policy contributions to the achievement of Europe 2020 strategic objectives;

Or. en

Amendment 356
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 98

Motion for a resolution

98. Is deeply concerned that for the 2007-2013 period, an ex post evaluation of the ERDF/CF was designed to draw conclusions on the overall impact of the programmes and to draw qualitative overall conclusions, it did not draw conclusions on the achievement of objectives or targets; moreover, neither did it systematically analyse synergies between ERDF/CF funding and the implementation of Union sectoral policies, which would have helped to shed light on cohesion policy contributions to the achievement of Europe 2020 strategic objectives;

Amendment

98. Is deeply concerned that for the 2007-2013 period, **while** an ex post evaluation of the ERDF/CF was designed to draw conclusions on the overall impact of the programmes and to draw qualitative overall conclusions, it did not draw conclusions on the achievement of objectives or targets; moreover, neither did it systematically analyse synergies between ERDF/CF funding and the implementation of Union sectoral policies, which would have helped to shed light on cohesion policy contributions to the achievement of Europe 2020 strategic objectives;

Or. en

Amendment 357
Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 99

Motion for a resolution

99. Underlines that in cohesion policy, characterised by large-scale infrastructure projects, there can be a time lag between the start of the programme, its implementation and the realisation of outputs and results; finds it worrisome that progress is also likely to be affected by the relatively low levels of implementation in respect of cohesion policy, compared to the rest of Union budget; notes that these factors, together with the fact that the latest data available (in an implementation period lasting until the end of 2023) relates to the end of 2018, making it harder at this stage to conclude on the achievement of the objectives;

Amendment

99. Underlines that in cohesion policy, characterised by large-scale infrastructure projects, there can be a time lag between the start of the programme, its implementation and the realisation of outputs and results; finds it worrisome that progress is also likely to be affected by the relatively low levels of implementation in respect of cohesion policy, compared to the rest of Union budget; notes that these factors, together with the fact that the latest data available (in an implementation period lasting until the end of 2023) relates to the end of 2018, making it harder at this stage to conclude on the achievement of the objectives; ***calls on the Commission to reduce the time lag between the start of the programme, its implementation and the realisation of outputs and results; notes that the supervision of network completion needs to be strengthened; urges the Commission to implement a department for providing Member States with expert support in steering such large projects;***

Or. en

Amendment 358

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 99

Motion for a resolution

99. Underlines that in cohesion policy, characterised by large-scale infrastructure projects, there can be a time lag between the start of the programme, its implementation and the realisation of outputs and results; finds it worrisome that progress is also likely to be affected by the relatively low levels of implementation in respect of cohesion policy, compared to the rest of Union budget; notes that these

Amendment

99. Underlines that in cohesion policy, characterised by large-scale infrastructure projects, there can be a time lag between the start of the programme, its implementation and the realisation of outputs and results; finds it worrisome that progress is also likely to be affected by the relatively low levels of implementation in respect of cohesion policy, compared to the rest of Union budget; notes that these

factors, together with the fact that the latest data available (in an implementation period lasting until the end of 2023) relates to the end of 2018, making it harder at this stage to conclude on the achievement of the objectives;

factors, together with the fact that the latest data available (in an implementation period lasting until the end of 2023) relates to the end of 2018, ***are outlined by the Court as*** making it harder at this stage ***for it*** to conclude on the achievement of the objectives;

Or. en

Amendment 359

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 99 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

99 a. Is very concerned by media reports about European co-financed construction, renovation or modification of buildings for the purpose of vocational training, where these buildings were repurposed after the minimum required period of three years; regrets allegations of fraud and personal enrichment from this repurposing; regrets that the Commission has not been able to provide additional information to dispel all remaining doubts; welcomes the intention of the Commission to properly follow-up on these allegations;

Or. en

Amendment 360

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 99 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

99 b. Considers the legal minimum durability requirement of three to five years too short given the significant

amount invested and the longevity of such projects; regrets that the co-legislators did not decide to introduce longer durability requirements during the revision of the [Common Provisions Regulation]; notes that significant differences exist across Member States in the national rules on durability of infrastructure investments and premature repurposing;

Or. en

Amendment 361
Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 99 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

99 a. *Is concerned about the lack of control and follow-up of the funding for entrepreneurs; calls on the Commission to develop a detailed strategy for the control of funding; and invites the Commission to assess the results of the projects funded by this financial mechanism; encourages the Commission to publish the results of its evaluation;*

Or. en

Amendment 362
Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 100

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

100. ***Stresses*** that Cohesion policy objectives, such as those relating to employment rates, economic development, and climate and energy, are heavily influenced by a wide range of national and external factors, in Europe and the world;

100. ***Takes note of other factors relevant to the Court analysis of performance, which explain*** that Cohesion policy objectives, such as those relating to employment rates, economic development, and climate and energy, are heavily

underlines that in many Member States, cohesion policy funding typically represents a small proportion of the funds dedicated to these issues, and so can have only a very limited impact on these Member States' progress towards meeting these objectives;

influenced by a wide range of national and external factors, in Europe and the world, ***as well as*** that in many Member States, cohesion policy funding typically represents a small proportion of the funds dedicated to these issues, and so can have only a very limited impact on these Member States' progress towards meeting these objectives;

Or. en

Amendment 363

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 100

Motion for a resolution

100. Stresses that Cohesion policy objectives, such as those relating to employment rates, economic development, and climate and energy, are heavily influenced by a wide range of national and external factors, in Europe and the world; ***underlines*** that in many Member States, cohesion policy funding typically represents a small proportion of the funds dedicated to these issues, and so can have only a ***very*** limited impact on these Member States' progress towards meeting these objectives;

Amendment

100. Stresses that Cohesion policy objectives, such as those relating to employment rates, economic development, and climate and energy, are heavily influenced by a wide range of national and external factors, in Europe and the world; ***underlines*** that in many Member States, cohesion policy funding typically represents a small proportion of the funds dedicated to these issues, and so, ***without a specially tailored national policies and programmes to work hand-in-hand with cohesion policy objectives***, can have only a limited impact on these Member States' progress towards meeting these objectives;

Or. en

Amendment 364

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 101

Motion for a resolution

101. Notes that the Union has at its disposal a range of policy tools for meeting its high-level cohesion policy objectives, of which the ERDF and CF constitute one part, that other funds and legislative initiatives are also designed to address the objectives, **therefore, that it is** often not possible to distinguish the effects of different policy tools on the progress towards meeting targets;

Amendment

101. Notes **furthermore the Court's observation regarding additional factors such as** that the Union has at its disposal a range of policy tools for meeting its high-level cohesion policy objectives, of which the ERDF and CF constitute one part, that other funds and legislative initiatives are also designed to address the objectives, **which make it** often not possible to distinguish the effects of different policy tools on the progress towards meeting targets;

Or. en

Amendment 365

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 102

Motion for a resolution

102. Regrets that of 72 indicators in total, only one third of the indicators are on track to meet their targets and that about half of the indicators are not on track; regrets that of **9 indicators** linked to the general objectives, only two are on track, **meanwhile** about one third of the indicators **have** a mid-term milestone target set for 2018;

Amendment

102. Regrets **that the Court's analysis based on scarce available data as of the end of 2018 shows** that of 72 indicators in total, only **just above** one third of the indicators are on track to meet their targets and that about half of the indicators are not on track **and that for the remaining indicators it was not possible for the Court to conclude**; regrets that of **9 indicators** linked to the general objectives, only two are on track; **notes, however, that** about one third of the indicators **having** a mid-term milestone target set for 2018 **the Court concludes that 70% have either been achieved or are likely to be achieved soon**;

Or. en

Amendment 366

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 102

Motion for a resolution

102. **Regrets** that of 72 indicators in total, only one third of the indicators are on track to meet their targets and that about half of the indicators are not on track; regrets that of 9 indicators linked to the general objectives, only two are on track, meanwhile about one third of the indicators have a mid-term milestone target set for 2018;

Amendment

102. **Stresses with concern** that of 72 indicators in total, only one third of the indicators are on track to meet their targets and that about half of the indicators are not on track; regrets that of 9 indicators linked to the general objectives, only two are on track, meanwhile about one third of the indicators have a mid-term milestone target set for 2018;

Or. en

Amendment 367

Pierre Karleskind, Olivier Chastel, Pascal Durand, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Gilles Boyer, Katalin Cseh, Ramona Strugariu

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 102 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

102 a. Is deeply concerned that since 2019 a growing number of Managing Authorities of European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) in Poland have adopted resolutions declaring themselves free from so-called ‘LGBTI ideology’ or have adopted ‘Regional Charters of Family Rights’ discriminating in particular against single-parent and LGBTI families; Insists on the fact that, in line with Regulation No 1303/2013^{1a}, the use of EU funds must comply with the principle of non-discrimination; Highlights that the new Common Provisions Regulation (CPR) for shared management funds entered into force in 2021 further reinforces the need of compliance of EU funds with the anti-discrimination principle and the charter of fundamental rights;

1^a Regulation laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and repealing Council Regulation

Or. en

Amendment 368

Pierre Karleskind, Olivier Chastel, Pascal Durand, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Gilles Boyer, Katalin Cseh, Ramona Strugariu

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 102 b (new)**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

102 b. Believes that there is a clear risk of breach of the anti-discrimination provisions regulating the use of EU funds in these municipalities and regions;

Or. en

Amendment 369

Pierre Karleskind, Olivier Chastel, Pascal Durand, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Gilles Boyer, Katalin Cseh, Ramona Strugariu

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 102 c (new)**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

102 c. Calls on the Commission to carry an in-depth audit of the use of ESIF in these regions since 2019 and its compliance with EU law, in particular with the anti-discrimination provisions;

Calls of the Commission to make use of every tool at its disposal, including financial corrections and fines, in case it finds clear evidence of misuse of funds on those grounds; Asks the Commission to report to the discharge authority the findings of this investigation;

Or. en

Amendment 370

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 103

Motion for a resolution

103. *Notes* that in total, 40 % of the output indicators are on track, and that for result and impact indicators, this percentage is 10 %;

Amendment

103. *Although the ERDF and CF could still be paid out until 2023 it stresses with concern* that in total, 40 % of the output indicators are on track, and that for result and impact indicators, this percentage is *at low* 10 %;

Or. en

Amendment 371

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 105

Motion for a resolution

105. Stresses that of all 10 indicators from the programme statements linked to the objective of supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy in all sectors, only 1 – ‘Number of households with improved energy consumption classification indicator’ – is on track;

Amendment

105. Stresses *with great concern* that of all 10 indicators from the programme statements linked to the objective of supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy in all sectors, only 1 – ‘Number of households with improved energy consumption classification indicator’ – is on track; *demands the Commission, also in the light of the Green Deal targets,*

makes improvements linked to this objective an absolute priority;

Or. en

Amendment 372

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 106 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

106 a. Acknowledges that COVID-19 crisis has provided a new and unexpected challenge that the EU and its Member States need to respond determinedly and provide solutions at the EU and national level; welcomes the increasing financial flexibility in cohesion spending which enables Member States to use the funds to finance crisis-related projects; underlines the necessity of fostering the continuity and deeper cooperation of all stakeholders relevant to cohesion policy, mainly SMEs, municipalities and regions, which will struggle with unemployment and healthcare in the coming months

Or. en

Amendment 373

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 106 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

106 b. welcomes the increasing financial flexibility in cohesion spending which enables Member States to use the funds to finance crisis-related projects; underlines the necessity of fostering the continuity

and deeper cooperation of all stakeholders relevant to cohesion policy, mainly SMEs, municipalities and regions, which will struggle with unemployment and healthcare in the coming months

Or. en

Amendment 374

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 106 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

106 c. Highlights the challenges that patients in the Union face in benefiting from the Directive on cross-border healthcare, as identified in the Court's Special Report 7/2019, particularly with regard to potential patients' awareness of their rights, problems and delays in exchanging patient health data electronically between Member States and access to healthcare for patients with rare diseases;

Or. en

Amendment 375

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 107

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

107. ***Finds itself in agreement with*** the Court's opinion that there are strong indications that the Union will not meet the 2030 climate and energy targets; ***notes*** that according to the Commission, there was only limited progress in the reduction of

107. ***Is alarmed by*** the Court's opinion that there are strong indications that the Union will not meet the 2030 climate and energy targets; ***stresses*** that according to the Commission, there was only limited progress in the reduction of the negative

the negative environmental impacts stemming from the use of natural resources; highlights its agreement with the Court that half of the Union Member States were at risk of not generating enough electricity from renewable energy to meet their 2020 targets; **notes** that in the Court's landscape review of Union action on energy and climate change, the Court reported that the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions projected by Member States falls short of the 40 % target for 2030;

environmental impacts stemming from the use of natural resources; highlights its agreement with the Court that half of the Union Member States were at risk of not generating enough electricity from renewable energy to meet their 2020 targets; **raises its concern** that in the Court's landscape review of Union action on energy and climate change, the Court reported that the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions projected by Member States falls short of the 40 % target for 2030;

Or. en

Amendment 376

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 107

Motion for a resolution

107. ***Finds itself in agreement with*** the Court's opinion that there are strong indications that the Union will not meet the 2030 climate and energy targets; notes that according to the Commission, there was only limited progress in the reduction of the negative environmental impacts stemming from the use of natural resources; highlights ***its agreement with*** the Court that half of the Union Member States were at risk of not generating enough electricity from renewable energy to meet their 2020 targets; notes that in the Court's landscape review of Union action on energy and climate change, the Court reported that the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions projected by Member States falls short of the 40 % target for 2030;

Amendment

107. ***Is concerned by*** the Court's opinion that there are strong indications that the Union will not meet the 2030 climate and energy targets; notes that according to the Commission, there was only limited progress in the reduction of the negative environmental impacts stemming from the use of natural resources; highlights the Court ***observation*** that half of the Union Member States were at risk of not generating enough electricity from renewable energy to meet their 2020 targets; notes that in the Court's landscape review of Union action on energy and climate change, the Court reported that the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions projected by Member States falls short of the 40 % target for 2030;

Or. en

Amendment 377

Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 107

Motion for a resolution

107. Finds itself in agreement with the Court's opinion that there are strong indications that the Union will not meet the 2030 climate and energy targets; notes that according to the Commission, there was only limited progress in the reduction of the negative environmental impacts stemming from the use of natural resources; highlights its agreement with the Court that half of the Union Member States were at risk of not generating enough electricity from renewable energy to meet their 2020 targets; notes that in the Court's landscape review of Union action on energy and climate change, the Court reported that the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions projected by Member States falls short of the 40 % target for 2030;

Amendment

107. Finds itself in agreement with the Court's opinion that there are strong indications that the Union will not meet the 2030 climate and energy targets; notes that according to the Commission, there was only limited progress in the reduction of the negative environmental impacts stemming from the use of natural resources; highlights its agreement with the Court that half of the Union Member States were at risk of not generating enough electricity from renewable energy to meet their 2020 targets; notes that in the Court's landscape review of Union action on energy and climate change, the Court reported that the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions projected by Member States falls short of the 40 % target for 2030; ***calls on the Commission to reevaluate the results due to the impact of covid-19 pandemic and the Green Deal package;***

Or. en

Amendment 378
Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 108

Motion for a resolution

108. Points out that in a 2019 report³, the EEA highlighted that the current rate of progress will not be enough to meet 2030 and 2050 climate and energy targets;

Amendment

deleted

³ *EEA, European environment — state and outlook 2020, Knowledge for transition to a sustainable Europe, 2019.*

Amendment 379**Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution**Paragraph 108***Motion for a resolution*

108. Points out that in a 2019 report³, the EEA highlighted that the current rate of progress will not be enough to meet 2030 and 2050 climate and energy targets;

³ EEA, *European environment — state and outlook 2020, Knowledge for transition to a sustainable Europe, 2019.*

Amendment

108. Points out that in a 2019 report^{1a}, the EEA highlighted that the current rate of progress will not be enough to meet 2030 and 2050 climate and energy targets; ***therefore calls on the Commission to review Member States' action plans and together with them introduce the necessary improvements that will allow the Union to stay on the track of the Paris Climate Agreement and Commission's own Green Deal targets;***

^{1a} EEA, *European environment — state and outlook 2020, Knowledge for transition to a sustainable Europe, 2019.*

Amendment 380**Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution**Paragraph 109***Motion for a resolution*

109. ***Regrets that*** half of the 16 indicators linked to the objective of 'Promoting sustainable transport and removing bottlenecks in key network

Amendment

109. ***Is concerned that only*** half of the 16 indicators linked to the objective of 'Promoting sustainable transport and removing bottlenecks in key network

infrastructures' are on track to meet their targets; **highlights** that Member States have reduced most targets for 2023 in the latest report, approved by the Commission, in some cases by considerable amounts (for example, the combined ERDF and CF target value for the indicator "Total length of new railway line" was reduced from 947 km to 579 km (39 %) and the combined ERDF and CF target value for the indicator "Total length of new or improved tram and metro lines" was reduced from 680 km to 441 km (35 %));

infrastructures' are on track to meet their targets; **regrets** that Member States have reduced most targets for 2023 in the latest report, approved by the Commission, in some cases by considerable amounts (for example, the combined ERDF and CF target value for the indicator "Total length of new railway line" was reduced from 947 km to 579 km (39 %) and the combined ERDF and CF target value for the indicator "Total length of new or improved tram and metro lines" was reduced from 680 km to 441 km (35 %));

Or. en

Amendment 381

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 109 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

109 a. Reiterates the Parliament's request for the creation of a new budgetary line for Tourism, to support this sector severely hit by the Covid-19 crisis; welcomes that the Court has launched an audit to assess tourism projects co-funded with EUR 6.4 billion in 2007-2013 and EUR 4 billion so far in 2014-2020 ERDF and Cohesion Fund money, which will help improving EU Tourism policies

Or. en

Amendment 382

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 109 b (new)

109 b. Notes that by the sixth year of the current programming period 2014-2020 only around 31% of the funds initially awarded had resulted in payments by January 2020, putting into question the full implementation of CEF; calls on Member States to significantly speed up investments and on the Commission to step up its monitoring in view of the urgent need for infrastructure investment for the speedy recovery from the Covid-19 related economic downturn;

Or. en

Amendment 383

Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 110

Motion for a resolution

110. Highlights that in this policy area all indicators are output ones: ***they mainly provide data about the programme's implementation in terms of infrastructure built but there are no*** common indicators to measure results ***(Court's report on Union co-funded roads⁴ indicates that the Commission does not report information such as time savings or higher average speed, even though this information is sometimes available);***

⁴ ECA, special report no 9/2020, *The EU-core road network: shorter travel times but network not yet fully functional.*

Amendment

110. Highlights that in this policy area all indicators are output ones ***as regards impacts of projects achieved (increase of traffic, economic impact for different actors, impact on congestions, emissions...); notes project promoters should collect and publish information and data on results and impacts of the investment; asks the Commission to collaborate with project promoters and work on*** common indicators to measure results ***of the projects;***

Or. en

Amendment 384

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 110

Motion for a resolution

110. **Highlights** that in this policy area all indicators are output ones: they mainly provide data about the programme's implementation in terms of infrastructure built but there are no common indicators to measure results (Court's report on Union co-funded roads⁴ indicates that the Commission does not report information such as time savings or higher average speed, even though this information is sometimes available);

⁴ *ECA, special report no 9/2020, The EU-core road network: shorter travel times but network not yet fully functional.*

Amendment

110. **Stresses once again** that in this policy area all indicators are output ones: they mainly provide data about the programme's implementation in terms of infrastructure built but there are no common indicators to measure results (Court's report on Union co-funded roads^{1a} indicates that the Commission does not report information such as time savings or higher average speed, even though this information is sometimes available); **urges the Commission to plan the policy so as to allow for a proper on-going and mid-term assessments of results and broader impacts achieved;**

^{1a} *ECA, special report no 9/2020, The EU-core road network: shorter travel times but network not yet fully functional.*

Or. en

Amendment 385
Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 111

Motion for a resolution

111. Underlines that in the recent Court audit on TFI⁵ **stated that it is unlikely that the Union core transport network will reach its full capacity by 2030**, furthermore, in the landscape review the ECA indicated that since the scale of

Amendment

111. Underlines that in the recent Court audit on TFI⁵ **the Commission acknowledged that there is a high risk for some of the TFIs not to operate at full capacity in 2030**, furthermore, in the landscape review the ECA indicated that

Union funding is limited compared to the overall needs, it is necessary to focus on priorities with the highest Union added value;

since the scale of Union funding is limited compared to the overall needs, it is necessary to focus on priorities with the highest Union added value;

⁵ ECA, special report no 10/2020 EU transport flagship infrastructures: no timely completion of the transport network.

⁵ ECA, special report no 10/2020 EU transport flagship infrastructures: no timely completion of the transport network.

Or. en

Amendment 386

Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 112

Motion for a resolution

112. Is of the opinion that, as stated in the Court's audit on TFIs, the traffic forecasts ***were usually overoptimistic, not well coordinated, not based on*** sound economic assessments ***and sometimes very simplistic, and in particular*** cost-benefit analyses ***had not been properly used as a tool for policy-making***;

Amendment

112. Is of the opinion that, as stated in the Court's audit on TFIs, the traffic forecasts ***needs improvement and a better coordination; points out the traffic forecasts should take into account*** sound economic assessments, ***as well as*** cost-benefit analyses ***and be periodically revised to take into account possible delays***;

Or. en

Amendment 387

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 112

Motion for a resolution

112. Is of the opinion that, as stated in the Court's audit on TFIs, the traffic forecasts were usually overoptimistic, not well coordinated, not based on sound economic assessments and sometimes very

Amendment

112. Is of the opinion that, as stated in the Court's audit on TFIs, the traffic forecasts were usually overoptimistic, not well coordinated, not based on sound economic assessments and sometimes very

simplistic, and in particular cost-benefit analyses had not been properly used as a tool for policy-making;

simplistic, and in particular cost-benefit analyses had not been properly used as a tool for policy-making; ***stresses the fact that such a poor planning is not an exception and that especially in the field of climate change and much needed adjustments the Union will have to implement in the field of environmental protection and use of resources the Commission often uses simplistic and overoptimistic estimates;***

Or. en

Amendment 388

Joachim Kuhs, Jean-François Jalkh, Matteo Adinolfi

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 112

Motion for a resolution

112. Is of the opinion that, as stated in the Court's audit on TFIs, ***the*** traffic forecasts were usually overoptimistic, not well coordinated, not based on sound economic assessments and sometimes very simplistic, and in particular cost-benefit analyses had not been properly used as a tool for policy-making;

Amendment

112. Is of the opinion that, as stated in the Court's audit on TFIs, ***there is a risk that*** traffic forecasts were usually overoptimistic, not well coordinated ***for half of the projects***, not based on sound economic assessments and sometimes very simplistic, and in particular cost-benefit analyses had not been properly used as a tool for policy-making;

Or. en

Amendment 389

Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 113

Motion for a resolution

113. Finds it very regrettable that the Commission in its legislative proposal for the ESIF for 2021-2027 removes all the appraisal requirements specific to major

Amendment

deleted

projects, including the cost-benefit analysis requirement, while this is recognised as bringing a reduction in the general administrative burden, this is outweighed by the increased risk that the co-financed investments will not offer the best value for money;

Or. en

Amendment 390

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 113

Motion for a resolution

113. ***Finds it very regrettable*** that the Commission in its legislative proposal for the ESIF for 2021-2027 removes all the appraisal requirements specific to major projects, including the cost-benefit analysis requirement, while this is recognised as bringing a reduction in the general administrative burden, this is outweighed by the increased risk that the co-financed investments will not offer the best value for money;

Amendment

113. ***Deplores the fact*** that the Commission in its legislative proposal for the ESIF for 2021-2027 removes all the appraisal requirements specific to major projects, including the cost-benefit analysis requirement, while this is recognised as bringing a reduction in the general administrative burden, this is outweighed by the increased risk that the co-financed investments will not offer the best value for money; ***calls strongly on the Commission to re-evaluate its proposal;***

Or. en

Amendment 391

Ádám Kósa

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 113 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

113 a. Welcomes, that the European Accessibility Act (EAA) has been finally adopted in 2019, highlights its importance as the first legislation on this matter in the

European Union, asks the Commission to closely monitor Member States' progress in adopting and publishing all necessary laws, regulations and administrative processes to comply with the EAA by the 28 of June 2022,

Or. en

Amendment 392

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 114

Motion for a resolution

114. Finds the fact that only 3 out of 9 indicators (33 %) from the programme statements linked to the ERDF specific objective – ‘Enhancing the competitiveness of SMEs’ are on track to meet their targets represents an underperformance; highlights that these three indicators are output-related, measuring the number of businesses supported by the ERDF, meanwhile other indicators, such as those measuring whether the private investment matches public support to businesses, and the employment increase in supported businesses are not on track;

Amendment

114. Finds the fact that only 3 out of 9 indicators(33 %) from the programme statements linked to the ERDF specific objective –‘Enhancing the competitiveness of SMEs’ are on track to meet their targets represents an underperformance; highlights that these three indicators are output-related, measuring the number of businesses supported by the ERDF, meanwhile other indicators, such as those measuring whether the private investment matches public support to businesses, and the employment increase in supported businesses are not on track; ***urges the Commission to plan the policy so as to allow for a proper on-going and mid-term assessments of results and broader impacts achieved, including assessing the impact of policies to combat long-term unemployment;***

Or. en

Amendment 393

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 115

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

115. Notes that ERDF funding was used together with national sources of SME support, either by complementing existing national measures or by filling gaps in the support system, however, it⁶ found that synergies between ERDF and ESF support were generally low, despite the importance of safeguarding employment;

deleted

⁶ *European Commission, Ex-post evaluation of 2007-2014, Support to SMEs – Increasing Research and Innovation in SMEs and SME Development, February 2016.*

Or. en

Amendment 394

Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 116 a (new)**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

116 a. Takes note of the Commission's conclusion that with regard to the performance of the EU budget, most programmes are progressing towards the targets set at the beginning of the programming period, and despite the delays in the starting up the 2014-2020 cohesion programmes, progress is now accelerating; notes however that the Commission is able to define definite conclusions on performance only on the basis of detailed evaluations after closure of the current programmes;

Or. en

Amendment 395

Lara Wolters

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 116 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

116 a. Is deeply concerned by discriminatory measures taken by various Polish local governments against LGBTI persons, including through so-called ‘LGBTI-free zones’; notes that these authorities receive ESI-funds; calls on the Commission to ensure that cohesion funds are disbursed in compliance with the fundamental rights enshrined in the Treaties and Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, as well as the Common Provisions Regulation concerning ESI-funds;

Or. en

Amendment 396

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Luke Ming Flanagan, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 116 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

116 a. Notes with concern the lack of clear information on the final beneficiaries of the cohesion funds and calls the Commission to ensure all necessary information on its financing is gathered, not just about the financial intermediaries but especially on the final beneficiaries;

Or. en

Amendment 397

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group
Luke Ming Flanagan, Olivier Chastel, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 116 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

116 b. Recognises the importance of digital tools such as ARACHNE in the fight against corruption and misuse of EU funds; calls all Member States to implement such tools without any further undue delays; stresses that on top of the ARACHNE tool big data and other IT tools should be taken under Commission's serious consideration not only for investigation but also for monitoring changes in tendencies and prevention of other ways of misuse of EU funds;

Or. en

Amendment 398
Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group
Luke Ming Flanagan, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 116 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

116 c. Stresses the great potential of public registers of final beneficial owners introduced with the fifth Anti-Money Laundering Directive in fight against corruption, misuse of EU funds and conflict of interest; calls on the Commission to ensure the data on beneficial ownership of companies is set up and made available to the public;

Or. en

Amendment 399

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 116 d (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

116 d. Is appalled by the fact that more than 2 years after the start of Commission's audits, the situation around the alleged conflict of interest of Czech Prime Minister Andrej Babiš remains unsolved; calls on the Commission to finish the audit as soon as the legal deadlines allow for, present the final audit reports to the broader European public and fully inform both the Parliament and the Council of the audits' results and advice on the necessary steps that should follow;

Or. en

Amendment 400

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai

Motion for a resolution

Subheading 18 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Performance: European Social Fund (ESF) and Youth Employment Initiative (YEI)

Or. en

Amendment 401

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 116 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

116 a. Notes that the Court has not selected ESF and FEAD to be covered by its first annual report on performance of the EU budget at the end of 2019;

Or. en

Amendment 402

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 116 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

116 b. Welcomes the findings within the Commission Evaluation (February 2021) on of the 2014-2018 ESF support to employment and labour mobility, social inclusion and education and training; notes with satisfaction that for the period 2014-2018, approximately 23 million persons participated in ESF actions and that 52% of participants were women; notes furthermore that of those participating, nearly 3.2 million persons have already found employment and 3.9 million successfully gained a qualification;

Or. en

Amendment 403

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 116 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

116 c. Notes that by 2018 EUR 10,4 billion have been spent - from both the ESF and the YEI, that 3.8 million people under age of 30 participated in youth-

employment support projects and that 1.4 million people entered employment immediately after participation;

Or. en

Amendment 404

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 116 d (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

116 d. Notes furthermore that by the end of 2018, EUR 33.8 billion from the ESF have been invested for social inclusion and nearly 6.2 million persons had participated in social-inclusion actions, and that out of them nearly 700,000 individuals have found employment, with nearly 400,000 achieving a qualification;

Or. en

Amendment 405

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Subheading 18 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Recommendations

Or. en

Amendment 406

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 116 a (new)

116 a. Calls on the Commission to:

- follow up on allegation of alleged fraud regarding the repurposing of vocational training centres; analyse whether similar problems exist in other Member States regarding the repurposing of EU-co-financed infrastructure projects;**
- promptly inform the discharge authority about its findings and potential further action following this analysis;**
- conduct a thorough analysis on the different national rules on durability of infrastructure investments and premature repurposing and share this analysis with the discharge authority;**
- encourage Member States to create national legislation on adequate durability periods beyond the minimum requirements as already existing in a lot of Member States;**

Or. en

Amendment 407

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 118 a (new)**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

118 a. Notes the positive evolution for the policy area “natural resources”, which continues its downtrend with a further decrease of the overall level of error established by the Court to an estimated level of error of 1.9%, below the materiality threshold; welcomes the fact that the error rate established by the Court tallies very closely with the overall error rate for the CAP given in DG AGRI’s 2019 annual activity report;

Or. en

Amendment 408

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 118 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

118 b. Welcomes the Court's finding that EAGF direct payments, representing 70% of spending under natural resources, continues to be free of material error and the estimated level of error for all the chapter is below the materiality threshold, which demonstrates that the effectiveness of the remedial action plans that Member States have implemented in previous years;

Or. en

Amendment 409

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 118 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

118 c. Notes that for both CAP funds, the continuous decrease in error-rates is due to the efficient management and control systems applied, in particular the Integrated Administration and Control System (IACS);

Or. en

Amendment 410

Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 118 d (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

118 d. Stresses that the very high levels of expenditure in relation to direct payment ceilings are mainly explained by the important part of the budget granted through decoupled payments that have poor level of efficiency and effectiveness because this kind of direct payments are given irrespective of the level of the current income and regardless of the sustainability of production conditions ; considers it necessary to abandon this approach that has no Community added-value and has numerous adverse implications, such as the capitalisation in the price of farmland and rent-seeking behavior.

Or. en

**Amendment 411
Tsvetelina Penkova**

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 118 e (new)**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

118 e. Considers that the EAGF should intervene through countercyclical approaches and by increasing the share of budgetary resources not previously allocated to Member States; recalls that the European Union is the only WTO member that continues to use decoupled payments that are broadly considered as a form of dumping ;considers that abandoning the defence of the principle of decoupling is a chance to overcome the multilateralism crisis;

Or. en

**Amendment 412
Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz**

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 119

Motion for a resolution

119. ***Finds it worrying*** that of the 251 transactions examined⁷, 44 (18 %) contained errors while 207 (82 %) were error-free; ***is concerned that based on the 36 errors ECA has quantified and other evidence produced by the control system ECA finds the level of error for ‘Natural resources’ to be close to the materiality threshold;***

⁷ The sample consisted of 136 payments under rural development programmes, 95 direct payments, 14 market measures and 6 payments for fisheries, the environment and climate action.

Amendment

119. ***Notes*** that of the 251 transactions examined ***by the Court***, 44 (18 %) contained errors while 207 (82 %) were error-free; ***notes furthermore that 70 % of errors were made up by ‘Ineligible beneficiary/activity/project/expenditure’;***

Or. en

Amendment 413

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 119

Motion for a resolution

119. ***Finds it worrying*** that of the 251 transactions examined⁷, 44 (18 %) contained errors while 207 (82 %) were error-free; ***is concerned*** that based on the 36 errors ECA has quantified and other evidence produced by the control system ECA finds the level of error for ‘Natural resources’ to be close to the materiality threshold;

⁷ The sample consisted of 136 payments under rural development programmes, 95 direct payments, 14 market measures and 6 payments for fisheries, the environment

Amendment

119. ***Notes*** that of the 251 transactions examined⁷, 44 (18 %) contained errors while 207 (82 %) were error-free; ***notes*** that based on the 36 errors ECA has quantified and other evidence produced by the control system ECA finds the level of error for ‘Natural resources’ to be close to the materiality threshold;

⁷ The sample consisted of 136 payments under rural development programmes, 95 direct payments, 14 market measures and 6 payments for fisheries, the environment

and climate action.

and climate action.

Or. en

Amendment 414

Joachim Kuhs, Jean-François Jalkh

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 119

Motion for a resolution

119. ***Finds it worrying*** that of the 251 transactions examined⁷, 44 (18 %) contained errors while 207 (82 %) were error-free; ***is concerned*** that based on the 36 errors ECA has quantified and other evidence produced by the control system ECA finds the level of error for 'Natural resources' to be close to the materiality threshold;

⁷ The sample consisted of 136 payments under rural development programmes, 95 direct payments, 14 market measures and 6 payments for fisheries, the environment and climate action.

Amendment

119. ***Notes*** that of the 251 transactions examined⁷, 44 (18 %) contained errors while 207 (82 %) were error-free; ***notes*** that based on the 36 errors ECA has quantified and other evidence produced by the control system ECA finds the level of error for 'Natural resources' to be close to the materiality threshold;

⁷ The sample consisted of 136 payments under rural development programmes, 95 direct payments, 14 market measures and 6 payments for fisheries, the environment and climate action.

Or. en

Amendment 415

Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 119

Motion for a resolution

119. Finds it worrying that of the 251 transactions examined⁷, 44 (18 %) contained errors while 207 (82 %) were error-free; is concerned that based on the 36 errors ECA has quantified and other evidence produced by the control system ECA finds the level of error for 'Natural

Amendment

119. Finds it worrying that of the 251 transactions examined⁷, 44 (18 %) contained errors while 207 (82 %) were error-free; is concerned that based on the 36 errors ECA has quantified and other evidence produced by the control system ECA finds the level of error for 'Natural

resources' to be close to the materiality threshold;

resources' to be close to the materiality threshold; ***with an estimated most likely level of error at 1, 9% ;***

⁷ The sample consisted of 136 payments under rural development programmes, 95 direct payments, 14 market measures and 6 payments for fisheries, the environment and climate action.

⁷ The sample consisted of 136 payments under rural development programmes, 95 direct payments, 14 market measures and 6 payments for fisheries, the environment and climate action.

Or. en

Amendment 416

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 120

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

120. *Regrets that 70 % of errors were made up by 'Ineligible beneficiary/activity/project/expenditure';*

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 417

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 120

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

120. *Regrets that 70 % of errors were made up by 'Ineligible beneficiary/activity/project/expenditure';*

120. *Stresses the fact that, as in previous years, 70 % of errors were made up by 'Ineligible beneficiary/activity/project/expenditure';*

Or. en

Amendment 418

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 120**

Motion for a resolution

120. **Regrets** that 70 % of errors were made up by ‘Ineligible beneficiary/activity/project/expenditure’;

Amendment

120. **notes** that 70 % of errors were made up by ‘Ineligible beneficiary/activity/project/expenditure’;

Or. en

Amendment 419

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 123**

Motion for a resolution

123. Notes that of 68 payments based on the area or animal numbers declared by farmers, and on requirements to comply with environmental and climate-related criteria, 8 transactions were affected by small errors below 5 % of the amount examined, 1 case of error between 5 % and 20 %, in 2 other cases the beneficiaries breached environmental and climate-related eligibility conditions, leading to errors exceeding 20 % of the amount examined in both cases;

Amendment

123. Notes that of 68 **rural development** payments based on the area or animal numbers declared by farmers, and on requirements to comply with environmental and climate-related criteria, 8 transactions were affected by small errors below 5 % of the amount examined, 1 case of error between 5 % and 20 %, in 2 other cases the beneficiaries breached environmental and climate-related eligibility conditions, leading to errors exceeding 20 % of the amount examined in both cases;

Or. en

Amendment 420

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 124**

Motion for a resolution

124. Notes that of 14 transactions concerning market measures, in 5 cases paying agencies had reimbursed ineligible costs, including 3 cases of non-compliance with the eligibility rules leading to errors exceeding 20 % of the amount examined;

Amendment

124. Notes ***with great concern*** that of 14 transactions concerning market measures, in 5 cases **(36 %)** paying agencies had reimbursed ineligible costs, including 3 cases of non-compliance with the eligibility rules leading to errors exceeding 20 % of the amount examined;

Or. en

Amendment 421

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 125

Motion for a resolution

125. Notes that of 6 transactions concerning fisheries, the environment and climate action, 2 projects had ineligible elements in the costs reimbursed;

Amendment

125. Notes ***with great concern*** that of 6 transactions concerning fisheries, the environment and climate action, 2 projects **(33 %)** had ineligible elements in the costs reimbursed;

Or. en

Amendment 422

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 125 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

125 a. Considers transparency as an essential element for retaining or gaining citizens'/taxpayers' trust and also the reputation of the CAP; notes the worrying conclusions of the Court, Ombudsman and numerous calls for improvements by the discharge authority on corruption and non-transparency; notes the limited

*progress made by the Commission;
stresses that the Arachne data mining tool
goes some way but not all the way to
resolving these problems and should be
further developed by adding other digital
tools to help the Commission carry out
efficient controls;*

Or. en

Amendment 423

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 125 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

*125 b. Notes that capping should apply
always to the parent undertaking where
there is one, not the individual beneficiary
or subsidiaries in order to avoid splitting
up farms to avoid capping or to benefit
from the 1250 euro subsidy income
exemption to transparency rules;*

Or. en

Amendment 424

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 125 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

*125 c. Is deeply concerned by the recent
report published by the Slovak Supreme
Control Office regarding the work of the
Slovak Agricultural Paying Agency,
which concluded the lack of transparency
in the management of the direct subsidies
as well as of the systematic control of*

applicants and recipients of subsidies^{1a}; is concerned by the limitations in the reliability of the results of the certification bodies' work, due to weaknesses identified by the Court in some certification bodies' checks and sampling methodologies;

^{1a} https://www.nku.gov.sk/web/sao/news/-/asset_publisher/FaxZbYV7Oqlp/content/direct-aid-in-agriculture-without-targeted-control-with-holes-in-legislation.

Or. en

Amendment 425

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 126

Motion for a resolution

126. *Is concerned by* the limitations in the reliability of the results of the certification bodies' work, due to weaknesses *the Court* identified in some certification bodies' checks and sampling methodologies;

Amendment

126. *Notes the Court's opinion that the 2015 expansion of certification bodies' role to provide an opinion on the regularity of expenditure was a positive development, as well as the Court's recognition that it identified some areas in which there is scope for further improvement, similar in type to those identified by the Commission; calls on the Commission to take the necessary measures in order to overcome the limitations in the reliability of the results of the certification bodies' work, due to weaknesses which DG AGRI identified in some certification bodies' checks and sampling methodologies;*

Or. en

Amendment 426

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 126

Motion for a resolution

126. Is concerned by the limitations in the reliability of the results of the certification bodies' work, due to weaknesses the Court identified in some certification bodies' checks and sampling methodologies;

Amendment

126. Is concerned by the limitations in the reliability of the results of the certification bodies' work, due to weaknesses the Court identified in some certification bodies' checks and sampling methodologies; ***regrets that the Court cannot include an analysis for the reasons for these persisting weaknesses in its work; regrets that neither the Commission could contribute meaningful insights on the reasons and any country-specific differences between Member States' certification bodies; regrets that this lack of information on the underlying reasons for these persisting, systemic weaknesses in certain certification bodies hinders efficiently and effectively addressing and solving these problems;***

Or. en

Amendment 427

Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 126

Motion for a resolution

126. Is concerned by the limitations in the reliability of the results of the certification bodies' work, due to weaknesses the Court identified in some certification bodies' checks and sampling methodologies;

Amendment

126. Is concerned by the limitations in the reliability of the results of the certification bodies' work, due to weaknesses the Court identified in some certification bodies' checks and sampling methodologies; ***welcomes that the Commission visited all certification bodies to review their work on legality and irregularity and to assist them to improve their work by the end of 2019; calls on the Commission to analyse the main sources of undetected errors and develop the necessary measures together with audit authorities to improve the reliability of reported residual rates;***

Amendment 428

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 126

Motion for a resolution

126. Is concerned by the limitations in the reliability of the results of the certification bodies' work, due to weaknesses the Court identified in some certification bodies' checks and sampling methodologies;

Amendment

126. Is concerned by the limitations in the reliability of the results of the certification bodies' work, due to weaknesses the Court identified in some certification bodies' checks and sampling methodologies; ***In view of the CAP new delivery model, in which certification bodies will play a more prominent role, calls on Commission to focus more on the reliability of the results they furnish***

Amendment 429

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 127 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

127 a. Stresses that the impact of alleged fraud on the implementation of the CAP is marginal, both in terms of number of cases reported by the Member States and cases investigated by OLAF and in financial terms; notes that in 2019, the Member States (including the UK) have reported only 236 cases of allegedly fraudulent irregularities in relation to some 7 million beneficiaries, and that the financial impact of these cases was estimated at EUR 24 623 588, which represents 0,041% of all CAP expenditure made in 2019; notes furthermore that as

at November 2020, OLAF was investigating 43 alleged cases of fraud, which possible financial impact is still unknown;

Or. en

Amendment 430
Lara Wolters

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 127 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

127 a. Remains deeply worried by reports about agricultural funds ending up in the pockets of autocrat leaders and their cronies; reiterates that this is a severe injustice towards EU tax payers and particularly towards small farmers and rural communities; stresses that the eradication of corruption and fraud should be part and parcel of the CAP;

Or. en

Amendment 431
Lara Wolters

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 127 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

127 b. Underlines that given the widespread problems of conflict of interest in the distribution of Union agricultural funds, it is undesirable that members of the European Council, agricultural ministers, functionaries, members of the agricultural committee of the European Parliament or their family should be taking decisions on income support;

Or. en

Amendment 432

Lara Wolters

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 127 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

127 c. 1. Points to a recent study offered to the Discharge Authority on the identification of the direct and ultimate beneficiaries of CAP spending^{1a}; reiterates the study's finding that a comprehensive and accessible overview of these beneficiaries remains impossible to provide; therefore asks the Commission in cooperation with national agencies to come up with a standardized and publicly accessible format to disclose the end beneficiaries of the CAP, building on best practices such as the website farmsubidy.org;

1a

https://www.europarl.europa.eu/meetdocs/2014_2019/plmrep/COMMITTEES/CON T/DV/2021/01-25/Study_Largest50Beneficiaries_EN.pdf

Or. en

Amendment 433

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 127 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

127 a. Based on the irregularities found in Slovakia calls on the Commission to review the situation of Agriculture Paying Agencies in the Member States and ensure both their independence and

*compliance of their operations with the
EU rules;*

Or. en

Amendment 434
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Subheading 21 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

*Anti-fraud policies and procedures in the
CAP*

Or. en

Amendment 435
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 127 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

*127 a. Underlines that fraud is an act or
omission committed with an intention to
mislead, resulting in undue payments;*

Or. en

Amendment 436
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 127 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

*127 b. Takes note of the Court
methodology to verify if the transactions
audited are free from material
irregularity, whether due to fraud or*

unintentional error, reminding that every year it identifies suspected fraud cases in CAP spending, with the risk that fraud has a material impact being greater for market-support payments, rural-development investments and other payments, which are generally subject to reimbursement-based co-financing;

Or. en

Amendment 437
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 127 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

127 c. Reminds that as the CAP is under shared management, both the Commission and the Member States are responsible for addressing fraud issues; on the Commission side, takes note that DG AGRI provides training and guidance on fraud risks for Member State management and control bodies, while the Commission's anti-fraud office (OLAF) investigates suspected fraud cases in cooperation with national investigative bodies;

Or. en

Amendment 438
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 127 d (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

127 d. Regrets that the Court found that DG AGRI had last updated its fraud risk analysis only in 2016; shares the court recommendation to the Commission to

*update its analysis of CAP fraud risks
more frequently;*

Or. en

Amendment 439
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 127 e (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

*127 e. Is extremely worried that neither
OLAF nor DG AGRI assessed Member
States' measures to prevent and fight
fraud in CAP spending;*

Or. en

Amendment 440
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 127 f (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

*127 f. Supports the Court
recommendation to disseminate best
practices in the use of Arachne to further
encourage its use by paying agencies.*

Or. en

Amendment 441
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Subheading 21 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Fair CAP allocation

Amendment 442
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 127 g (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

127 g. insists that larger farm incomes do not necessarily need the same degree of support for stabilising farm incomes as smaller farms in time of income volatility crisis since they may benefit of potential economies of scale, which are likely to be resilient; believes that the Commission should take steps to ensure that CAP funds are distributed in a weighted manner, such that the payments per hectare are on a reducing scale relative to the size of the holding/farm^{13a};

^{13a} Paragraph 258 of the discharge resolution in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2018, Section III – Commission and executive agencies

Or. en

Amendment 443
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 127 h (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

127 h. urges the Commission to ensure that the CAP is fairly allocated to active farmers and does not result in land deals that benefit a select group of political insiders often called ‘the oligarchs’; calls on the Commission to take stock of

breaches, circumventions and unintended consequences of the CAP current allocation rules; notes the importance of a transparent and strong governance system and further calls on the Commission to increase efforts to prevent and detect fraud^{14a};

^{14a} Paragraph 260 of the discharge resolution in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2018, Section III – Commission and executive agencies

Or. en

Amendment 444
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Subheading 21 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Conflict of interests, land-grabbing and concentration of land

Or. en

Amendment 445
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 127 i (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

127 i. Call on the Commission to report to the Parliament the results of the DG AGRI Audit procedure on the case of conflict of interest in the Czech Republic; requests that particular attention is put on payments made to companies directly and indirectly owned by the Czech Prime

Minister or other Members of the Czech Government;

Or. en

Amendment 446
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 127 j (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

127 j. calls on the Commission to better analyse Member State legislation and policies to prevent land grabbing and to formulate guidance on best practices; invites the Member States to apply good legislative practices aimed at restricting land grabs; calls on the Commission to increase efforts to prevent and detect fraud; urges Member States, together with the Commission, to develop proper Union-level legal instrument to prevent land-grabbing.

Or. en

Amendment 447
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 127 k (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

127 k. Reminds that the Parliament has already expressed a clear position when it comes to land concentration and urges the Commission to implement its requests, including the setting up of concrete instruments to evaluate the land concentration in all Union, identify the final beneficiaries owners of Union funds, also via a unique business identifier at Union Level as proposed in the

preliminary findings of the study on "The largest 50 beneficiaries in each EU Member State of CAP and cohesion funds"^{15a}

15a

https://www.europarl.europa.eu/meetdocs/2014_2019/plmrep/COMMITTEES/CON T/DV/2021/01-25/Study_Largest50Beneficiaries_EN.pdf

Or. en

Amendment 448

Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution

Subheading 21 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Country-specific observations

Or. en

Amendment 449

Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 127 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

127 a. Notes, that as regards market measures, 6 Paying Agencies have been classified as providing "limited assurance with high risk": Bulgaria, Spain, UK, Greece, Italy (for 2 aid schemes) and Portugal. The highest adjusted error rate was found in Bulgaria (11.52%), followed by Poland (7.15%) and Italy (6.12%). DG AGRI has issued 7 reservations at measure level: Fruit and Vegetables: Operational programmes for producer organisations (the United Kingdom, Italy

and Portugal), Olive oil (Greece), Wine sector (Bulgaria, Italy), EU School Scheme (Spain). Is especially concerned about the wine sector, where the adjusted error rates in Bulgaria (15.7%) and Italy (9.6%) are very high, with amounts at risk of more than EUR 30 million in Italy and EUR 2.3 million in Bulgaria.

Or. en

Amendment 450

Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 127 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

127 b. Notes, that as regards direct payments, 18 Paying Agencies had an error rate between 2% and 5%, and one above 5 % (5.2 in Austria). DG AGRI has issued 17 reservations at Paying Agency level for Austria, Cyprus, Denmark, Spain (3 Paying Agencies), Greece, Italy (7 Paying Agencies), Portugal, Romania and Sweden;

Or. en

Amendment 451

Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 127 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

127 c. The reservations can be grouped in the following categories: due to weaknesses in relation to payment entitlements (AT, DK, IT, PT, SE), due to weakness in animal-based voluntary support measures (AT, GR, RO), due to high reported error-rate (CY), based on

*the Certification Body assessment (ES06)
, due to weaknesses in the quality of on-
the-spot checks (ES09, ES15, GR, PT,
SE), weaknesses in the Land Parcel
Identification System (LPIS) (IT) and due
to weaknesses in the definition of land
type (RO, SE);*

Or. en

Amendment 452
Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 127 d (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

*127 d. The reductions made in 2019
concerned 17 Member States and a total
amount of EUR 67 764 269.48 of which
36 million fell on Italy, 15 million on the
UK and 8 million on Spain;*

Or. en

Amendment 453
Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 127 e (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

*127 e. Notes, that as regards rural
development, 30 out of 71 Paying
Agencies have an adjusted error rate
above 2% (of which 8 were above 5%:
Cyprus, Germany (one Paying Agency),
Estonia, Spain (one Paying Agency),
France (one Paying Agency), United
Kingdom (one Paying Agency), Portugal,
Slovakia. DG AGRI has issued 21
reservations at Paying Agency level:
Austria, Cyprus, Germany (one Paying
Agency), Denmark, Estonia, Spain (two*

Paying Agencies), Finland, France (two Paying Agencies), United Kingdom (one Paying Agency), Croatia, Hungary, Ireland, Italy (two Paying Agencies), Lithuania, Portugal, Romania, Sweden and Slovakia. The highest adjusted error rates were found in Slovakia (10.31%), followed by 7.63% in Cyprus and 5.94% in Poland;

Or. en

Amendment 454

Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 127 f (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

127 f. The reservations can be grouped in the following categories: due to deficiencies in organic farming measure (AT,HU); under afforestation (ES02, PT); and for Leader and private investment non- Integrated Administrative and Control System (non-IACS) measure (DE19), due to deficiencies in checks for the on the spot controls (CY, DK, FR18, FR19,IT10, SK); cost reasonableness (ES09, FR19); in cross-checks (ES09, SK); ineligibility (ES09, CY, RO, SK) and active farmer (GB07), due to weaknesses in supervision procedures for some measures (IT10); and in recording of the maximum eligible area (MEA) in the Land Parcel Identification System (LPIS) for Integrated Administrative and Control System (IACS) measures (IT10, IT26), due to deficiencies in investment measure (HR); private investments (LT); forestry, agri-environmental commitments, setting up of producer groups and risk management measures (HU); due to deficiencies in public procurement procedures (HU, RO, SK), due to high reported error rates (CY, DK, EE, ES02, ES09, FR18, FR19 HR, IE, LT, PT) ,

*based on the Certification Body
assessment (FI, GB07, HR, IT26, SE);*

Or. en

Amendment 455

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 127 h (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

127 h. Is concerned that the Commission uses too many input and output indicators in its performance analysis that are expressing preference for certain partisan positions; asks the Commission to streamline performance reporting by reducing the number of relevant objectives and meaningful indicators it uses for its various performance reports, and focus on those fewer and more appropriate common set of outcome and impact indicators which best measure the results achieved in terms of efficiency, economy and effectiveness of the Union spending;

Or. en

Amendment 456

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 127 g (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

127 g. Welcomes that the Court assessed the results of EU programmes; notes that appropriate risk analyzes and recommendations for action to EU policymakers are an important basis for political decision-making; however, is concerned that the large number of

output indicators is increasingly expressing preference for certain partisan positions; calls on the Court to focus the performance assessments on achieving European added value and an efficient use of EU tax money;

Or. en

Amendment 457

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Subheading 21 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Recommendations

Or. en

Amendment 458

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 127 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

127 a. Calls on the Commission to:-

- conduct a thorough analysis of the underlying reasons and potential structural problems causing the persisting systemic weaknesses in the reliability and quality of the work by the certifying bodies detected by the Court in its audits every year and pay special attention to any potential country-specific differences; asks the Commission to also include observations on best practice in national authorities with low levels of errors and whose work is deemed reliable by the Court; asks the Commission to conduct this analysis in close cooperation with the Court and actively involve national authorities both regarding the problem

description and potential solutions; -
- share the results of his analysis with the Court, the discharge authority and Member States; -
- based on this analysis, address clear, practical and readily implementable horizontal as well as country-specific recommendations to the national authorities; asks the Commission to establish a structured dialogue with the national authorities and the Court to continuously work on capacity building and exchange of best practice to improve the reliability of national audit authorities' work; keep the discharge authority informed about the progress of this dialogue;

Or. en

Amendment 459
Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group
Luke Ming Flanagan, Olivier Chastel

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 127 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

127 b. Calls on the Commission to further improve the quality and enlarge the scope of auditing and controls of regularity and achieved results of the EU agricultural policy both on the national and European level as a key condition for the protection of EU financial interests;

Or. en

Amendment 460
Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 128 – introductory part

Motion for a resolution

128. ***Finds it worrying*** that the Court has identified weaknesses in the set of CAP performance indicators:

Amendment

128. ***Takes note of the Court's explanation in its Annual Report on Performance of the EU budget at the end of 2019 regarding some limitations of its assessment of the CAP indicators and that it considers this as only a first step in analysing CAP performance; notes*** that the Court has identified weaknesses in the set of CAP performance indicators:

Or. en

Amendment 461

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 – introductory part

Motion for a resolution

128. Finds it worrying that the Court has identified weaknesses in the set of CAP performance indicators:

Amendment

128. Finds it ***extremely*** worrying that the Court has identified ***serious*** weaknesses in the set of CAP performance indicators ***that could significantly influence the reporting on results achieved, making it overoptimistic, unreliable and unrealistic or even impossible to assess; furthermore, the Court has identified different financial support measures in CAP with little to no impact on the goals the individual measure should help achieve; urges the Commission to react to these findings without undue delays and annually reports back to the discharge authority on the introduced changes and progress achieved.:***

Or. en

Amendment 462

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 – indent 1 – introductory part

Motion for a resolution

- *The 2019 AMPR provides little quantified information about the results and impact of the CAP, and presents an overly positive narrative about policy achievements by focusing on outputs rather than results:*

Amendment

- *More indicators relate to inputs or outputs and thus they show the level of absorption rather than the results or impacts of the policy:*

Or. en

Amendment 463

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 – indent 1 – point a

Motion for a resolution

a. *The Commission states that ‘over 85 % of the targets for climate actions in the agricultural sector have already been reached in the management of biodiversity, soil and water’. These targets are based on the areas under specific EAFRD measures, i.e. outputs. They do not show whether the payments had any effect on the condition of supported areas. The Commission claims that the EAFRD ‘is making an important contribution to development. For example, broadband access in rural areas has improved considerably (59 % of households had next-generation access in 2019)’. There is no information on the contribution of the EAFRD to this figure in the AMPR;*

deleted

Amendment

Or. en

Amendment 464

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 – indent 1 – point a

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

a. *The Commission states that ‘over 85 % of the targets for climate actions in the agricultural sector have already been reached in the management of biodiversity, soil and water’. These targets are based on the areas under specific EAFRD measures, i.e. outputs. They do not show whether the payments had any effect on the condition of supported areas. The Commission claims that the EAFRD ‘is making an important contribution to development. For example, broadband access in rural areas has improved considerably (59 % of households had next-generation access in 2019)’. There is no information on the contribution of the EAFRD to this figure in the AMPR;*

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 465

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 – indent 2 – introductory part

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- The indicators *in the programme statements mainly provide information about outputs*, which are more easily measurable and less affected by external factors than results and impacts:

- The *impact* indicators *are based on general macroeconomic variables, on which the effects of CAP can be both unclear and difficult to measure;*

Or. en

Amendment 466

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 – indent 2 – point a

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

a. *the Commission's intervention logic connects CAP objectives, measures and output indicators, but does not identify needs or intended results and targets. The Commission's intervention logic for direct payments does not define which level of income the CAP aims to achieve for farmers;* **deleted**

Or. en

Amendment 467

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 – indent 2 – point a

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

a. *the Commission's intervention logic connects CAP objectives, measures and output indicators, but does not identify needs or intended results and targets. The Commission's intervention logic for direct payments does not define which level of income the CAP aims to achieve for farmers;* **deleted**

Or. en

Amendment 468

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 – indent 2 – point b

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

b. *the targets for CAP general objectives and most EAGF specific objectives are expressed as desired trends (e.g. "to increase" agricultural factor income or "to decrease" greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture). Multiple* **deleted**

external factors impact the final outcome, and the Commission has not always identified a causal relationship between the CAP and the variable. Targets expressed only as directions and not as quantified values make it impossible to identify milestones;

Or. en

Amendment 469

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 – indent 2 – point b

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

b. *the targets for CAP general objectives and most EAGF specific objectives are expressed as desired trends (e.g. “to increase” agricultural factor income or “to decrease” greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture). Multiple external factors impact the final outcome, and the Commission has not always identified a causal relationship between the CAP and the variable. Targets expressed only as directions and not as quantified values make it impossible to identify milestones;* **deleted**

Or. en

Amendment 470

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 – indent 2 – point c

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

c. *most CMEF indicators, which are not in the programme statements, are output indicators; they do not provide significant additional information on* **deleted**

performance towards achieving policy objectives. Evaluation support studies frequently note that a lack of monitoring data (on measures) is a limitation when analysing impact. ECA pointed out⁸ the limitations of the performance information collected through the CMEF indicators;

⁸ See special reports No 1/2016 (performance measurement in relation to farmers' incomes), paragraph 92; No 10/2017 (young farmers), paragraphs 70-71; No 13/2020 (biodiversity on farmland), paragraphs 49, 59, 71, and 81; ECA opinion No 7/2018, paragraphs 68-71.

Or. en

Amendment 471
Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 128 – indent 2 – point c

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

c. most CMEF indicators, which are not in the programme statements, are output indicators; they do not provide significant additional information on performance towards achieving policy objectives. Evaluation support studies frequently note that a lack of monitoring data (on measures) is a limitation when analysing impact. ECA pointed out⁸ the limitations of the performance information collected through the CMEF indicators; **deleted**

⁸ See special reports No 1/2016 (performance measurement in relation to farmers' incomes), paragraph 92; No 10/2017 (young farmers), paragraphs 70-71; No 13/2020 (biodiversity on

*farmland), paragraphs 49, 59, 71, and 81;
ECA opinion No 7/2018, paragraphs 68-
71.*

Or. en

Amendment 472

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 – indent 3 – introductory part

Motion for a resolution

- In relation to the general objective on viable food production, direct payments have reduced farmers' income volatility. At the same time, the absence of benchmarks for a fair standard of living and of further targeting of the spending has reduced the efficiency of direct support.

Amendment

- 14 indicators do not have a specific, quantified target and therefore, they only indicate trends:

Or. en

Amendment 473

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 – indent 3 – point a

Motion for a resolution

a. all three indicators linked to the general objective of viable food production (increasing agricultural factor income, increasing agricultural productivity, and limiting price variability) reflect macroeconomic developments. While these indicators show a positive trend, the CAP has little or no demonstrable impact on them;

Amendment

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 474

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 – indent 3 – point a

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

a. all three indicators linked to the general objective of viable food production (increasing agricultural factor income, increasing agricultural productivity, and limiting price variability) reflect macroeconomic developments. While these indicators show a positive trend, the CAP has little or no demonstrable impact on them; **deleted**

Or. en

Amendment 475

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Pierre Karleskind, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 – indent 3 – point a

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

a. all three indicators linked to the general objective of viable food production (increasing agricultural factor income, increasing agricultural productivity, and limiting price variability) reflect macroeconomic developments. While these indicators show a positive trend, the CAP has little or no demonstrable impact on them;

a. all three indicators linked to the general objective of viable food production (increasing agricultural factor income, increasing agricultural productivity, and limiting price variability) reflect macroeconomic developments.

Or. en

Amendment 476

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 – indent 3 – point b

Amendment

b. the EAGF specific objective ‘to sustain farmers’ income stability by providing direct income support’ has a single indicator: ‘share of direct support in agricultural entrepreneurial income’. In 2017, the value of this indicator varied from 8 % in the Netherlands to 50 % in Slovakia. The target is to keep the ratio stable. However, this is not consistent with the policy objective of increasing the individual earnings of people engaged in agriculture while limiting the need for direct support;

Or. en

Amendment 477

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 – indent 3 – point b

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

b. the EAGF specific objective ‘to sustain farmers’ income stability by providing direct income support’ has a single indicator: ‘share of direct support in agricultural entrepreneurial income’. In 2017, the value of this indicator varied from 8 % in the Netherlands to 50 % in Slovakia. The target is to keep the ratio stable. However, this is not consistent with the policy objective of increasing the individual earnings of people engaged in agriculture while limiting the need for direct support;

Or. en

Amendment 478

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 – indent 3 – point c

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

c. in its 2019 AMPR, the Commission argued that farmers' income lagged behind salaries in the economy as whole. The Commission stated that, in 2017, average income in the farming sector amounted to about 46,5 % of average wages in the Union-28 economy. The Commission uses entrepreneurial income per family work unit as a proxy for farm income. However, this figure does not take into account the different demographics of the two populations (many farmers are of retirement age) or the non-farming income of farm households. Disposable income, also taking into account non-farming income, is a key element for assessing farmers' standard of living;

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 479

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 – indent 3 – point c

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

c. in its 2019 AMPR, the Commission argued that farmers' income lagged behind salaries in the economy as whole. The Commission stated that, in 2017, average income in the farming sector amounted to about 46,5 % of average wages in the Union-28 economy. The Commission uses entrepreneurial income per family work unit as a proxy for farm income. However, this figure does not take into account the different demographics of the two populations (many farmers are of retirement age) or the non-farming income of farm households. Disposable income, also

deleted

*taking into account non-farming income,
is a key element for assessing farmers’
standard of living;*

Or. en

Amendment 480

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 – indent 3 – point d

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

*d. in 2016 about two thirds⁹ of farms deleted
in the Union were smaller than 5 ha. As
direct payments are linked to farm area,
around 80 % of the support goes to
around 20 % of beneficiaries. In fact,
more than 30 % of the payments goes to 2
% of the beneficiaries, who each receive
more than EUR 50 000 in direct
payments. Various redistributive
mechanisms have had only a marginal
effect;*

⁹ according to Eurostat

Or. en

Amendment 481

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 – indent 3 – point d

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

*d. in 2016 about two thirds⁹ of farms deleted
in the Union were smaller than 5 ha. As
direct payments are linked to farm area,
around 80 % of the support goes to
around 20 % of beneficiaries. In fact,
more than 30 % of the payments goes to 2
% of the beneficiaries, who each receive*

more than EUR 50 000 in direct payments. Various redistributive mechanisms have had only a marginal effect;

⁹ *according to Eurostat*

Or. en

Amendment 482

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 – indent 3 – point e

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

e. the CAP performance indicators do not measure the efficiency of direct payments. The Court concluded that the proportion¹⁰ of farms receiving direct payments and generating an income per unit of labour higher than average national labour productivity had decreased from 29 % in 2013 to 26 % in 2015. The study found that 9 % of small farms and more than 30 % of large farms had income per unit of labour above this benchmark;

deleted

¹⁰ *Evaluation study of the impact of the CAP measures towards the general objective “viable food production”, 2020, pp. 108-122.*

Or. en

Amendment 483

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 – indent 3 – point e

e. the CAP performance indicators do not measure the efficiency of direct payments. The Court concluded that the proportion¹⁰ of farms receiving direct payments and generating an income per unit of labour higher than average national labour productivity had decreased from 29 % in 2013 to 26 % in 2015. The study found that 9 % of small farms and more than 30 % of large farms had income per unit of labour above this benchmark;

deleted

¹⁰ *Evaluation study of the impact of the CAP measures towards the general objective “viable food production”, 2020, pp. 108-122.*

Or. en

Amendment 484

Joachim Kuhs, Jean-François Jalkh

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 – indent 3 – point e

Motion for a resolution

e. the CAP performance indicators do not measure the efficiency of direct payments. The **Court** concluded that the proportion¹⁰ of farms receiving direct payments and generating an income per unit of labour higher than average national labour productivity had decreased from 29 % in 2013 to 26 % in 2015. The study found that 9 % of small farms and more than 30 % of large farms had income per unit of labour above this benchmark;

¹⁰ Evaluation study of the impact of the CAP measures towards the general objective “viable food production”, 2020,

Amendment

e. the CAP performance indicators do not measure the efficiency of direct payments. The ***evaluation support study*** concluded that the proportion¹⁰ of farms receiving direct payments and generating an income per unit of labour higher than average national labour productivity had decreased from 29 % in 2013 to 26 % in 2015. The study found that 9 % of small farms and more than 30 % of large farms had income per unit of labour above this benchmark;

¹⁰ Evaluation study of the impact of the CAP measures towards the general objective “viable food production”, 2020,

Amendment 485
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 128 – indent 3 – point e a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

e a. Assessing how much support is going to beneficiaries outside the target group could improve policy design and increase the efficiency of the CAP. This would involve identifying CAP funds paid to farmers whose income from farming exceeds the average income from farming and funds paid to beneficiaries whose main economic activity is not farming. Such data could also help to identify claims involving significant concentration of land (potentially representing ‘land-grabbing’). In addition, direct payments have contributed to increased land rents in some Member States, in particular for low-productivity lands. Evaluators have recommended that the Commission investigate direct payments’ impact on the increase of land rents and appropriate countermeasures;

Amendment 486
Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 128 – indent 3 – point f

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

f. the indicator ‘percentage of agricultural holdings participating in risk- management schemes’ measures the

deleted

proportion of farmers receiving CAP support for insurance premiums, and participating in mutual funds and other income stabilisation tools. Based on the programme statements, the indicator's progress towards target did not reach its 2018 milestone. By the end of 2018, 28,3 % of the target value for 2023 had been achieved. The Court has found¹¹ that most farmers who take out insurance policies do so without Union support, and that direct payments themselves significantly reduce income volatility;

¹¹ *Special report No 23/2019 – Farmers' income stabilisation, paragraphs 16-22, 41.*

Or. en

Amendment 487

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 – indent 3 – point f

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

f. the indicator 'percentage of agricultural holdings participating in risk- management schemes' measures the proportion of farmers receiving CAP support for insurance premiums, and participating in mutual funds and other income stabilisation tools. Based on the programme statements, the indicator's progress towards target did not reach its 2018 milestone. By the end of 2018, 28,3 % of the target value for 2023 had been achieved. The Court has found¹¹ that most farmers who take out insurance policies do so without Union support, and that direct payments themselves significantly reduce income volatility;

deleted

¹¹ *Special report No 23/2019 – Farmers'*

income stabilisation, paragraphs 16-22, 41.

Or. en

Amendment 488

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 – indent 3 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *seven indicators do not relate to the performance of the CAP, but to assurance on regularity of spending, public awareness of the CAP and policy information support within DG AGRI;*

Or. en

Amendment 489

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 – indent 4

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

[...]

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 490

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 – indent 4 – introductory part

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- For the general objective on the sustainable management of natural

- For the general objective on the sustainable management of natural

resources and climate action, the indicators focus on the size of the area benefiting from the measures, but not on what has been achieved with the support. Concerning specifically climate change, the CAP measures are found to have low impact in addressing climate needs due to their design:

resources and climate action, the indicators focus on the size of the area benefiting from the measures, but not on what has been achieved with the support. Concerning specifically climate change **and biodiversity loss**, the CAP measures are found to have low impact in addressing climate needs due to their design:

Or. en

Amendment 491

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 – indent 4 – point a

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

a. most programme statements’ indicators for the specific objectives under the natural resources and climate action concern the area or number of animals subject to the various measures or commitments, without measuring the benefits achieved for the environment;

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 492

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 – indent 4 – point b

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

b. in its latest AMPR, the Commission considers it an achievement that 79 % of the Union’s total agricultural area was subject to at least one greening obligation in 2018. However, the Court found¹² that greening had had little measurable effect on farming practices and the environment. It had led to changes in farming practices on around 5

deleted

% of all Union farmland and tended to minimise disturbance to established farming practices. Greening remained essentially an income-support scheme;

¹² *Special report No 21/2017 – Greening.*

Or. en

Amendment 493

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 – indent 4 – point b

Motion for a resolution

b. in its latest AMPR, the Commission considers it an achievement that 79 % of the Union's total agricultural area was subject to at least one greening obligation in 2018. However, the Court found¹² that greening had had little measurable effect on farming practices and the environment. It had led to changes in farming practices on around 5 % of all Union farmland and tended to minimise disturbance to established farming practices. Greening remained essentially an income-support scheme;

Amendment

b. in its latest AMPR, the Commission considers it an achievement that 79 % of the Union's total agricultural area was subject to at least one greening obligation in 2018. However, the Court found^{1a} that greening had had little measurable effect on farming practices and the environment. It had led to changes in farming practices on around 5 % of all Union farmland and tended to minimise disturbance to established farming practices; greening remained essentially an income-support scheme *and in a much lesser or no part a measure to address the agri-environment-climate practices in agriculture*;

^{1a} *ECA' Special report No 21/2017 – Greening.*

¹² *Special report No 21/2017 – Greening.*

Or. en

Amendment 494

David Lega

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 – indent 4 – point b

Motion for a resolution

b. in its latest AMPR, the Commission considers it an achievement that 79 % of the Union's total agricultural area was subject to at least one greening obligation in 2018. However, the Court found¹² that greening had had little measurable effect on farming practices and the environment. It had led to changes in farming practices on around 5 % of all Union farmland and tended to minimise disturbance to established farming practices. Greening remained essentially an income-support scheme;

¹² Special report No 21/2017 – Greening.

Amendment

b. in its latest AMPR, the Commission considers it an achievement that 79 % of the Union's total agricultural area was subject to at least one greening obligation in 2018. However, the Court found ***substantial evidence***¹² that greening had had little measurable effect on farming practices and the environment. It had led to changes in farming practices on around 5 % of all Union farmland and tended to minimise disturbance to established farming practices. Greening remained essentially an income-support scheme;

¹² Special report No 21/2017 – Greening.

Or. en

Amendment 495

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 – indent 4 – point c

Motion for a resolution

c. where properly targeted, agri-environment-climate measures can contribute significantly to biodiversity. This is most likely where schemes cover a substantial portion of the farmed landscape or focus on specific risks. One constraint is a low level of uptake by farmers. For some EAFRD measures, the Court found¹³ cases where compensation did not cover scheme participation costs (e.g. Natura 2000 payments in some Member States);

¹³ ***Special report No 1/2017 – More efforts needed to implement the Natura 2000 network to its full potential, paragraphs***

Amendment

deleted

59-60.

Or. en

Amendment 496

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 – indent 4 – point d

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

d. for the specific EAFRD objective related to ecosystems, the forestry-related output indicators at Union level showed that the uptake of forestry measures has been modest; ***deleted***

Or. en

Amendment 497

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 – indent 4 – point e

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

e. the indicator ‘percentage of irrigated land switching to more efficient irrigation systems’ relates to EAFRD specific objective 5. The target for 2023 is 13,0 %; in 2018, the result was 5,26 %, i.e. 40 % of the way towards reaching the target. Overall progress is unclear. Based on a sample of Member States, the evaluation support study¹⁴ found that there is no clear verification of the water savings achieved after the completion of the EAFRD investment; ***deleted***

¹⁴ *Evaluation of the impact of the CAP on water, 2019, pp. 157-158.*

Or. en

Amendment 498

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 – indent 4 – point f

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

*f. emissions from agriculture
accounted for around 12,6 % of total
Union greenhouse gas emissions in 2017.
Greenhouse gas emissions from
agriculture have fallen by more than 20 %
since 1990, but have stalled since 2010;*

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 499

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 – indent 4 – point f

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

f. emissions from agriculture
accounted for around 12,6 % of total Union
greenhouse gas emissions in 2017.
Greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture
have fallen by more than 20 % since 1990,
but have stalled since 2010;

f. emissions from agriculture
accounted for around 12,6 % of total Union
greenhouse gas emissions in 2017.
Greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture
have fallen by more than 20 % since 1990,
but have stalled since 2010 ***but they have
been increasing in recent years;***

Or. en

Amendment 500

**Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Pascal Durand, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind,
Ramona Strugariu, Gilles Boyer**

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 – indent 4 – point f a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

f a. underlines that agriculture can also remove the emissions from atmosphere naturally, through for example soil carbon sequestration.

Or. en

Amendment 501
Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 128 – indent 4 – point g

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

g. the evaluation support study on climate change notes that the compulsory measures (e.g. greening and cross-compliance) do not sufficiently address greenhouse gas emissions from livestock and cropland management. There are no CAP measures through which Member States can compel farmers to take action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from livestock and crop management; *deleted*

Or. en

Amendment 502
Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 128 – indent 5

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- The information reported by the Commission in the AMPR and programme statements in relation to the general objective on balanced territorial development is insufficient to assess the performance of the related Union spending: *deleted*
a. the only programme statements' indicator for the general objective of 'balanced territorial development' is

‘rural employment rate’. This rate increased from 63,4 % in 2012 to 68,1 % in 2018. The influence of the CAP is uncertain, but limited. Over the same period the general employment rate increased from 68,4 % to 72,2 %. The external economic environment and numerous national policies directly and indirectly affect employment in rural areas. The AMPR acknowledges these external factors;

b. the number of jobs recorded as directly created by LEADER by the end of 2018 was 13 337 (30 % of the 2023 target) and less than 0,05 % of total employment in rural areas. For other rural development measures, the number of jobs created was 10 784 (14 % of the target). The Commission notes in its programme statements that it does not have reliable data on jobs created under LEADER;

c. evaluation support studies suggest¹⁵ that regional and sectorial context has a significant impact on employment in rural areas, and that CAP measures have little impact on rural jobs;

d. young farmers can receive additional direct payments under the EAGF and one-off support from the EAFRD for setting up their first agricultural holding. The Court’s findings coincide with those of evaluation support studies¹⁶ : EAGF support for young farmers has little to no impact, while EAFRD support is more effective, mainly because it is better targeted. CAP generational renewal measures have been found to be effective in ‘cases where complementary national, regional and local governance institutions and fiscal policies also support and enhance’ those measures;

e. the Commission states in its AMPR that broadband access in rural areas has improved considerably, but it holds no further information on the EAFRD’s contribution to the development of rural areas. An evaluation support study assessing the general objective of

balanced territorial development in 2014-2020 is ongoing;

¹⁵ Evaluation of Article 68 measures, 2016; Evaluation of the impact of the CAP on generational renewal, local development and jobs in rural areas, 2019.

¹⁶ Evaluation of the impact of the CAP on generational renewal, local development and jobs in rural areas, 2019; ECA special report No 10/2017: EU support to young farmers should be better targeted to foster effective generational renewal; SURE-Farm: Impact of the Young Farmers payment on structural change, 2020.

Or. en

Amendment 503
Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 128 – indent 5 – point a

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

a. the only programme statements' indicator for the general objective of 'balanced territorial development' is 'rural employment rate'. This rate increased from 63,4 % in 2012 to 68,1 % in 2018. The influence of the CAP is uncertain, but limited. Over the same period the general employment rate increased from 68,4 % to 72,2 %. The external economic environment and numerous national policies directly and indirectly affect employment in rural areas. The AMPR acknowledges these external factors; *deleted*

Or. en

Amendment 504

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 – indent 5 – point b

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

b. the number of jobs recorded as deleted
directly created by LEADER by the end of
2018 was 13 337 (30 % of the 2023 target)
and less than 0,05 % of total employment
in rural areas. For other rural
development measures, the number of
jobs created was 10 784 (14 % of the
target). The Commission notes in its
programme statements that it does not
have reliable data on jobs created under
LEADER;

Or. en

Amendment 505

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 – indent 5 – point c

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

c. evaluation support studies deleted
suggest¹⁵ that regional and sectorial
context has a significant impact on
employment in rural areas, and that CAP
measures have little impact on rural jobs;

¹⁵ *Evaluation of Article 68 measures, 2016; Evaluation of the impact of the CAP on generational renewal, local development and jobs in rural areas, 2019.*

Or. en

Amendment 506

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 – indent 5 – point d

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

d. young farmers can receive additional direct payments under the EAGF and one-off support from the EAFRD for setting up their first agricultural holding. The Court's findings coincide with those of evaluation support studies¹⁶ : EAGF support for young farmers has little to no impact, while EAFRD support is more effective, mainly because it is better targeted. CAP generational renewal measures have been found to be effective in 'cases where complementary national, regional and local governance institutions and fiscal policies also support and enhance' those measures;

deleted

¹⁶ *Evaluation of the impact of the CAP on generational renewal, local development and jobs in rural areas, 2019; ECA special report No 10/2017: EU support to young farmers should be better targeted to foster effective generational renewal; SURE-Farm: Impact of the Young Farmers payment on structural change, 2020.*

Or. en

Amendment 507

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 – indent 5 – point d

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

d. young farmers can receive additional direct payments under the EAGF

d. young farmers can receive additional direct payments under the EAGF

and one-off support from the EAFRD for setting up their first agricultural holding. The Court's findings coincide with those of evaluation support studies¹⁶ : EAGF support for young farmers has little to no impact, while EAFRD support is more effective, mainly because it is better targeted. CAP generational renewal measures have been found to be effective in 'cases where complementary national, regional and local governance institutions and fiscal policies also support and enhance' those measures;

¹⁶ Evaluation of the impact of the CAP on generational renewal, local development and jobs in rural areas, 2019; ECA special report No 10/2017: EU support to young farmers should be better targeted to foster effective generational renewal; SURE-Farm: Impact of the Young Farmers payment on structural change, 2020.

and one-off support from the EAFRD for setting up their first agricultural holding. The Court's findings coincide with those of evaluation support studies¹⁶ : EAGF support for young farmers has little to no impact, while EAFRD support is more effective, mainly because it is better targeted. CAP generational renewal measures have been found to be effective in 'cases where complementary national, regional and local governance institutions and fiscal policies also support and enhance' those measures; ***New measures should be initiated to help young farmers especially in the frame of land acquisition.***

¹⁶ Evaluation of the impact of the CAP on generational renewal, local development and jobs in rural areas, 2019; ECA special report No 10/2017: EU support to young farmers should be better targeted to foster effective generational renewal; SURE-Farm: Impact of the Young Farmers payment on structural change, 2020.

Or. en

Amendment 508 **Markus Pieper**

Motion for a resolution **Paragraph 128 – indent 5 – point e**

Motion for a resolution

e. the Commission states in its AMPR that broadband access in rural areas has improved considerably, but it holds no further information on the EAFRD's contribution to the development of rural areas. An evaluation support study assessing the general objective of balanced territorial development in 2014-2020 is ongoing;

Amendment

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 509

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 – indent 5 – point e a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

e a. Deeply regrets that 40% of rural households still do not have high-speed internet access. Digitisation is not being speeded up in rural areas in order to develop employment there and also to support farms on a day-to-day basis.

Or. en

Amendment 510

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Pascal Durand, Alin Mituța, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 – indent 5 – point e b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

e b. Deplores the low level of organic farming in Europe, which is only 7.5% given the resources invested

Or. en

Amendment 511

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 – indent 5 – point e c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

e c. Deeply regrets that the Arachne system is not used by all states and hopes that initiatives will be taken in this

direction. Stresses the EC to use Arachne as a common data base and to promote strongly its use by all the Member states.

Or. en

Amendment 512

Olivier Chastel, Pascal Durand, Katalin Cseh

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 – indent 5 – point e d (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

e d. Calls the EC to put in place a performance based model in the CAP that should work based on these same indicators , giving quantified values to identify milestones; Insist on the need to provide significant additional information on performance towards achieving policy objectives on biodiversity and climate actions.

Or. en

Amendment 513

Olivier Chastel, Pascal Durand, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 – indent 5 – point e e (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

e e. emphasises that better insight is needed into sectors such as agriculture and forestry; calls on the Commission to take account of suggested further improvements in reporting how EU and national mitigation policies contribute to meeting emission reduction targets

Or. en

Amendment 514

Olivier Chastel, Pascal Durand, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 – indent 5 – point e f (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

e f. Insists that the Commission propose to introduce a specific mechanism of complaint into the CAP rules to support the farmers confronted with land-grabbing malpractices, criminal structures or organised crime or persons being subject to forced or slave labour.

Or. en

Amendment 515

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 – indent 5 – point e g (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

e g. Propose that the Area Monitoring System (AMS) should be compulsory in the frame of the IACS (Integrated Administration and Control System) in the members states.

Or. en

Amendment 516

Lara Wolters

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

128 a. Is worried about the weak performance of the CAP in addressing

climate action; repeats the Courts conclusion that the CAP measures have low impact in addressing climate action due to the quality of the indicators; urges the Commission to strongly improve the performance indicators in climate action and biodiversity;

Or. en

Amendment 517

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

128 a. Is concerned about limited availability and public access to data on agriculture subsidies and their final beneficiaries; is of opinion that such information is of public interest and needs to be made available; Calls the Commission and EU member states to collect and publish such data in a transparent and user-friendly manner (including the machine readable format) in order to enable full transparency of final beneficiaries and public control of the use of the EU money;

Or. en

Amendment 518

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Luke Ming Flanagan, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 d (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

128 d. Notes with concern that under the current transparency rules data is available only for a two-year period in case of CAP funding; calls to apply the five-year rule in case of CAP funding similarly to structural funds;

Or. en

Amendment 519

Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

128 a. Notes that in 2019 the Commission clarified the legal framework applicable for direct monitoring by imaging technologies^{128a}; welcomes the Court's observations^{128b} that imagining technologies represent extraordinary advantages such as the reduction of field visits and consequently their administrative costs, an interactive monitoring approach that prevents non-compliance and the generation of useful data for smart farming; highlights in particular that imaging technologies would allow monitoring the whole population of aid recipients, which could be a game changer in terms of budgetary control; calls on the Commission to review the environmental and climate performance indicators in order to make them compatibles with checks by monitoring; urge the Commission to remove the obstacles to a wider use of the imaging technologies and to provide incentives and support to national paying agencies to use checks by monitoring;

^{128a} Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1804 of 28 October 2019 amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 809/2014 as regards amendments of

aid applications or payment claims, checks in the integrated administration and control system and the control system in relation to cross compliance.

^{128b} European Court of Auditor's Special Report 04/2020 Using new imaging technologies to monitor the Common Agricultural Policy: steady progress overall, but slower for climate and environment monitoring.

Or. en

Amendment 520

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

128 a. Notes the Court's observation that the information in the AMPR is aligned with the underlying data in the programme statements, but the APMR gives an over optimistic view of achievements and it does not discuss the efficiency of spending; calls on the Commission to report to the discharge authority on the measures undertaken to overcome the significant challenges noted by it in achieving policy objectives for the period 2014-2020;

Or. en

Amendment 521

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

128 b. Takes note of the Court's observation that the direct payments

reduce income volatility (by around 30% as suggested by an evaluation study using data for 2010-2015), but they are largely untargeted; asks the Commission to ensure that better consistency between the targets addressed by the indicators and the policy objectives of increasing the individual earnings of people engaged in agriculture while limiting the need for direct support;

Or. en

Amendment 522

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

128 c. Notes with concern the Commission's data for the distribution of direct payments by payments class in 2019 demonstrating that the biggest share of the direct payment envelope (58%) goes to 15 % of all beneficiaries, while most beneficiaries (75%) account for even smaller share of the direct payments (15 %) than the only 0,5% of all beneficiaries obtaining 16,3% of the total direct payments; Reiterates its call on the Commission for a fairer distribution of the direct payments;

Or. en

Amendment 523

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 d (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

128 d. Welcomes the revision of the

indicators and objectives in the Commission's post-2020 CAP proposals which is based on the identified weaknesses by its Internal Audit Service and by the Court regarding CMEF indicators, as well as on the recognition of the need to develop further the indicators;

Or. en

Amendment 524

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 e (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

128 e. Notes the Court's observation that the CAP has potential to contribute to the sustainable use of natural resources, but there is not enough data to assess effectiveness; notes further its findings that greening had had little measurable effect on farming practices and the environment and that it remained essentially an income-support scheme;

Or. en

Amendment 525

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 f (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

128 f. Takes note of the constrain, identified by the Court for successful contribution of agri-environment-climate measures to biodiversity and invites the Commission to suggest measures for increasing schemes coverage of a substantial portion of the farmed landscape and on specific risks;

Amendment 526

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 g (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

128 g. Takes note of the modest achievement by forestry measures under EAFRD, the achievement of 60% in 2018 of the target for more efficient irrigation systems established for 2023 and the need for further reduction of greenhouse emissions from agriculture and calls on the Commission to report on measures undertaken to improve the results of CAP implementation in these areas;

Or. en

Amendment 527

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 h (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

128 h. Notes the Courts observation that the AMPR contains information on jobs and broadband access, but does not provide any relevant performance information for the balanced territorial development objective;

Or. en

Amendment 528

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 i (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

128 i. Welcomes the increase in the rural employment rate from 63,4% in 2012 to 68,1 % in 2018;

Or. en

Amendment 529

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 j (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

128 j. Notes the figures which the Court comments for LEADER as at the end of 2018 (13 337 jobs recorder representing 30% of the 2023 target) as well as that the Commission does not have reliable data on jobs created under LEADER; asks the commission to work together with Member States for improving the availability of reliable data for LEADER implementation;

Or. en

Amendment 530

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Arnaud Danjean, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

128 a. Notes with great concern the increasing concentration of CAP subsidies in the hands of few recipients; is concerned that 0.5% of all beneficiaries receive more than EUR 100 000, which corresponds to 16.3% of the total direct

payment envelope; is deeply concerned that CAP subsidies incentivise agricultural holdings, investors, hedge funds, foundations and very rich individuals to amass land, leading to a further increase in the concentration of landownership; notes with great concern that this drives up the price of farmland making it increasingly difficult for small and medium-sized farmers to acquire land; reiterates emphatically that agricultural subsidies are not intended to be safe returns for green investments;

Or. en

Amendment 531

Tomáš Zdechovský, Monika Hohlmeier

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

128 a. Is concerned about the multitude of media reports on labour rights abuses of cross-border and seasonal agricultural workers throughout the EU, in many Member States; supports the Commission in its efforts at refusing aid to farms that do not respect the labour rights of seasonal workers;

Or. en

Amendment 532

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Arnaud Danjean, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

128 b. Reiterates its call for the introduction of maximum amounts of

payments that one natural person can receive from the first and second pillar of the CAP; is of the opinion that maximum amounts that are defined for natural persons are much harder to circumvent than caps for legal persons; reminds that beneficiaries can artificially split up their companies or create additional companies that all can receive the maximum amount of funding, thereby circumventing a cap defined per legal person; welcomes the intentions of the proposal to count all companies belonging to the same group as one beneficiary, but is of the opinion that this is insufficient: opaque and highly complex company structures often involving entities in several Member States and/or third countries make it very difficult to ensure that all companies belonging to the same group are identified as such and in fact treated as one beneficiary;

Or. en

Amendment 533

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Arnaud Danjean, Niclas Herbst, Petri Sarvamaa, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

128 c. Repeats its concern that CAP subsidies continue to incentivise land-grabbing by criminal and oligarchic structures; reiterates its urgent call on the Commission to establish a complaint mechanism for farmers and SMEs faced with land-grabbing, severe misconduct by national authorities, irregular or biased treatment in tenders or the distribution of subsidies, pressure or intimidation from criminal structures, organised crime or oligarchic structures, or another severe infringement of their fundamental rights to lodge a complaint directly with the

Commission; welcomes that such a complaint mechanism has been proposed for the new CAP regulation;

Or. en

Amendment 534

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 d (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

128 d. Notes that DG AGRI audits in 2017 and 2019 detected weaknesses in the functioning of the Land Parcel Identification System, the Geospatial Aid Application, the quality of the on-the-spot-checks, as well as excessive delays in the processing of payments, in particular for overlapping claims; welcomes that the Commission has interrupted payments, put the paying agency under probation; notes that the deficiencies in the management and control systems of the paying agency are being addressed in an action plan requested by DG AGRI and reinforced in 2019; notes that the amount at risk is EUR 3.271 mio. for direct payments and EUR 21.596 mio. for rural development and that the conformity clearance procedure is ongoing;

Or. en

Amendment 535

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 e (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

128 e. Notes that OLAF closed three administrative investigations in 2020 on

possible misuse of EU funds for agriculture in Slovakia concerning direct payment applications made between 2013 and 2019; regrets that a company was found to intentionally claim EU payments on ineligible land, which was mainly used for non-agricultural activity; finds it alarming that OLAF also identified that certain areas that had been claimed for years by some companies were in fact not covered by legally valid lease contracts;

Or. en

Amendment 536

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 f (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

128 f. Notes further that OLAF's investigations uncovered several weaknesses in the control and management system for direct payments in Slovakia; regrets that there are only very limited controls on whether the disposal of land by applicants is lawful and that verification checks are limited to overlapping claims; notes OLAF's finding that the internal verification procedures adopted by the Slovak national authority in charge of the management of agricultural land under State ownership or land without a known private owner should be improved as regards its transparency and legal certainty; notes that as a result of the shortcomings in the verification processes, OLAF considers that overpayments could amount to more than one million euros;

Or. en

Amendment 537

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution
Subheading 22 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Recommendations

Or. en

Amendment 538

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Arnaud Danjean, Niclas Herbst, Petri Sarvamaa, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 128 g (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

128 g. Calls on the Commission to:

- do its utmost in the negotiations on the CAP to ensure that a complaint mechanism for farmers and SMEs will become part of the new CAP regulation;***
- do its utmost in the negotiations on the CAP to ensure that maximum amounts of payments receivable from the first and second pillar of the CAP are defined per natural person;***
- keep the discharge authority informed on any new developments regarding the Slovak Agricultural Paying Agency, including specific information on financial corrections;***
- calls on the Commission to increase efforts to prevent and detect fraud and frequently update its analysis of CAP fraud risks more often and perform an analysis of Member States' prevention measures as a matter of priority;***

Or. en

Amendment 539

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Luke Ming Flanagan, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

128 b. Calls the Commission to fully enforce the Financial Regulation of the EU, and particularly Article 61 thereof and to make sure the Financial Regulation is applied on all EU funds' payments includ-ing the direct agriculture payments;

Or. en

Amendment 540

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 128 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

128 c. Calls the Commission to ensure that the Fifth Anti-money laundering directive is implemented fully and correctly in all member states, particularly with regard to the implementations of public registers of beneficial owners and registers of beneficial owners of trusts; Notes that capping should apply always to the parent undertaking where there is one, not the individual beneficiary or subsidiaries in order to avoid splitting up farms to avoid capping;

Or. en

Amendment 541

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 128 e (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

128 e. Calls the Commission to provide necessary financial resources for water management, including support the quality and quantity of water resources in agricultural land, forestry and wetlands as well;

Or. en

Amendment 542
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 129 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

129 a. Is particularly worried by the opening of an inquiry by the European Ombudsman into the lack of European Commission oversight on abuses of migrants on the border in Croatia, following a complaint by Amnesty International, which documented widespread abuse over the years of migrants and asylum seekers trying to enter Croatia;

Or. en

Amendment 543
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 129 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

129 b. is worried by the findings that suggest Croatia is engaging in collective expulsions, denying people the right to claim asylum, and beating and humiliating others; regrets that the Commission has failed to conduct any meaningful inquiry into the alleged abuse by the Croatian authorities and granted additional top-up funding in 2019 for border surveillance through ISF delegated acts and EMAS grants in full knowledge of the risks of violation of fundamental rights; expects that at least the already announced mission to ensure Croat border guards comply with fundamental rights, which was delayed because of the pandemic, will be sent as a matter of urgency, considering the dire situation of migrants in the border;

Or. en

Amendment 544
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 129 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

129 c. recalls that EU funding instruments for border management require all actions funded to respect and comply with the Charter of Fundamental Rights; insists therefore that any future emergency assistance related to border management granted to Croatia should be granted only after a monitoring mechanism is implemented and an assessment that serious deficiencies, such as the violation of article 4 of the Schengen Borders Code, are urgently remedied.

Or. en

Amendment 545

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Subheading 24

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Court findings: ***Member States’
AMIF/ISF annual accounts***

Court findings

Or. en

Amendment 546

Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 129 d (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

129 d. Regrets that the Court’s audit scope for MFF heading 3 ‘Security and citizenship’ was designed to contribute to the overall statement of assurance, rather than to be representative of spending under this heading; reminds that the public and political interest in this area is far higher than its financial share; reiterates its request to the Court to clearly estimate the error rate for the chapter Security and Citizenships

Or. en

Amendment 547

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 131

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

131. Notes that, regarding ***the regularity of transactions, seven (37 %) of the 19 transactions examined by ECA*** were

131. Notes that, ***the Court have not estimated the error rate for this MFF heading but examined a sample of***

affected by errors (*i.e. overstatement of salary costs*);

regarding 19 transactions *designed to contribute to its overall statement of assurance rather than be representative of spending under this MFF heading; notes that the sample covered 8 transactions under shared management, 8 transactions under direct management and 1 under indirect management, and that the Court identified seven transactions (37%)* were affected by errors;

Or. en

Amendment 548

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 131

Motion for a resolution

131. Notes that, regarding the regularity of transactions, seven (37 %) of the 19 transactions examined by ECA were affected by errors (*i.e. overstatement of salary costs*);

Amendment

131. Notes *with concern* that, regarding the regularity of transactions, seven (37 %) of the 19 transactions examined by ECA were affected by errors (*i.e. overstatement of salary costs*);

Or. en

Amendment 549

Joachim Kuhs, Jean-François Jalkh

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 131

Motion for a resolution

131. Notes that, regarding the regularity of transactions, seven (37 %) of the 19 transactions examined by ECA were affected by errors (*i.e. overstatement of salary costs*);

Amendment

131. Notes that, regarding the regularity of transactions, seven (37 %) of the 19 transactions examined by ECA were affected by errors (*e.g. overstatement of salary costs*);

Or. en

Amendment 550

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 132

Motion for a resolution

132. *Regrets that* three quantifiable errors had *a financial impact* on the amounts charged to the Union budget;

Amendment

132. *Notes that the Court has not provided information about the financial impact which the* three quantifiable errors *identified by it* had on the amounts charged to the Union budget;

Or. en

Amendment 551

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 133

Motion for a resolution

133. Takes *into consideration* four cases of non-compliance with legal provisions regulating the selection of projects and procurement rules, but without a financial impact on the Union budget;

Amendment

133. Takes *note of* four cases of non-compliance with legal provisions regulating the selection of projects and procurement rules, but without a financial impact on the Union budget;

Or. en

Amendment 552

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 133 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

133 a. Notes that the Court audited the work done by eight authorities responsible for auditing their respective Member States' AMIF/ISF annual accounts⁸ and

providing the Commission with an annual control report;

Or. en

Amendment 553

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 134

Motion for a resolution

134. *Notes* that the audit authorities in the Member States¹⁷ selected by the ECA for a check had developed and implemented detailed procedures of sufficient quality to report as required by the rules;

¹⁷ Germany, Greece, Italy, Cyprus, Lithuania, Poland and the United Kingdom for AMIF; Slovenia for the ISF.

Amendment

134. *Welcomes the Court's findings* that the audit authorities in the Member States~~/1/~~ selected by the ECA for a check had developed and implemented detailed procedures of sufficient quality to report as required by the rules, *as well as they had detailed audit programmes and checklists to support their conclusions.*

Or. en

Amendment 554

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 134

Motion for a resolution

134. Notes that the audit authorities in the Member States¹⁷ selected by the ECA for a check had developed and implemented detailed procedures of sufficient quality to report as required by the rules;

Amendment

134. Notes *with satisfaction* that the audit authorities in the Member States¹⁷ selected by the ECA for a check had developed and implemented detailed procedures of sufficient quality to report as required by the rules;

¹⁷ Germany, Greece, Italy, Cyprus, Lithuania, Poland and the United Kingdom for AMIF; Slovenia for the ISF.

¹⁷ Germany, Greece, Italy, Cyprus, Lithuania, Poland and the United Kingdom for AMIF; Slovenia for the ISF.

Or. en

Amendment 555

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 135 – introductory part

Motion for a resolution

135. Takes into account certain shortcomings in annual reports issued by the **Member States**, whose impact on the accounts were not material enough to detract from the audit authorities' conclusions but creating potential risk of unreliability of reported data and of limited assurance, **such as:**

Amendment

135. Takes into account certain shortcomings in annual **control** reports issued by the **audit authorities**, whose impact on the accounts were not material enough to detract from the audit authorities' conclusions but creating potential risk of unreliability of reported data and of limited assurance

Or. en

Amendment 556

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 135 – indent 1

Motion for a resolution

- ***Sampling issues (use of a risk-based rather than a random methodology; inaccurate values used to determine sample size) in Slovenia;***

Amendment

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 557

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 135 – indent 2

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *Wrong set of accounts (submission of the draft accounts to the audit authority before completing its own on-the-spot controls by responsible authority) in Italy and Slovenia;* *deleted*

Or. en

Amendment 558

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 135 – indent 3

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *Inaccurate calculation and presentation of total and/or residual error rates in Germany and Italy;* *deleted*

Or. en

Amendment 559

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 135 – indent 4

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *Exclusion of the technical assistance from the audit population and lack of reporting on this fact in the annual control report in Slovenia;* *deleted*

Or. en

Amendment 560

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 135 – indent 5

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *Partial exclusion of advance payments from the audit population and lack of reporting on this fact in the annual control report in Germany;* *deleted*

Or. en

Amendment 561
Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 136

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

136. Notes that the audit authorities in the Member States¹⁸ selected by the Court for a check had detailed audit programmes and checklists to support their conclusions; *deleted*

¹⁸ Germany, Greece, Italy, Cyprus, Lithuania, Poland, the United Kingdom, Slovenia.

Or. en

Amendment 562
Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 137

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

137. Takes into account certain shortcomings in the work of audit authorities creating potential risks in failure to detect ineligible expenditure, unreliability of audit conclusions and of *deleted*

limited assurance such as:

- Irregular checks of project selection and/or award criteria by the auditors in Italy and Cyprus;*
- Insufficient audit trail or poor documentation of audit work in Greece, Cyprus, Lithuania and UK;*
- Irregular check of all relevant available evidence to confirm the eligibility of target groups and declared expenditure or the reasonableness of costs in Italy and Cyprus;*

Or. en

Amendment 563

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 137 – introductory part

Motion for a resolution

137. ***Takes into account*** certain shortcomings in the work of audit authorities creating potential risks in failure to detect ineligible expenditure, unreliability of audit conclusions and of limited assurance such as:

Amendment

137. ***Points to*** certain shortcomings in the work of audit authorities creating potential risks in failure to detect ineligible expenditure, unreliability of audit conclusions and of limited assurance such as ***examples below and asks the Commission and the Court to work together with national audit authorities to improve on these shortcomings:***

Or. en

Amendment 564

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 138 – introductory part

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

138. **Notes** shortcomings arising from the Commission's assessments of annual control reports¹⁹ such as:

¹⁹ From Bulgaria, Czechia, France, Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Slovakiaa, Estonia, Spain, Iceland, Malta and Finland.

138. **Points to** shortcomings arising from the Commission's assessments of annual control reports¹⁹ such as:

¹⁹ From Bulgaria, Czechia, France, Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Slovakiaa, Estonia, Spain, Iceland, Malta and Finland.

Or. en

Amendment 565

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 138 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

138 a. Asks the Commission and Member States' audit authorities to address the shortcomings identified by the Court and to report to the discharge authority;

Or. en

Amendment 566

Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 138 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

138 a. Urges the Commission to follow up on the Court's recommendations concerning audit coverage, sampling and audit trails in relation to Member States' audit authorities in order to address the identified shortcomings;

Or. en

Amendment 567

Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 138 c (new)**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

138 c. Welcomes that the Court assessed the results of EU programmes; notes that appropriate risk analyzes and recommendations for action to EU policymakers are an important basis for political decision-making; however, is concerned that the large number of output indicators is increasingly expressing preference for certain partisan positions; calls on the Court to focus the performance assessments on achieving European added value and an efficient use of EU tax money;

Or. en

**Amendment 568
Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský**

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 138 c (new)**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

138 c. Is concerned that the Commission uses too many input and output indicators in its performance analysis that are expressing preference for certain partisan positions; asks the Commission to streamline performance reporting by reducing the number of relevant objectives and meaningful indicators it uses for its various performance reports, and focus on those fewer and more appropriate common set of outcome and impact indicators which best measure the results achieved in terms of efficiency, economy and effectiveness of the Union spending;

Or. en

Amendment 569

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 139

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

139. *Notes four general impact indicators (on actual returns compared to return decisions, percentage of voluntary returns, difference in employment rates between Union and non-Union nationals, and convergence of recognition rates for asylum applicants); notes that these are not directly related to the performance of AMIF, although spending from the fund may contribute to the corresponding target;*

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 570

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 139

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

139. *Notes* four general impact indicators (on actual returns compared to return decisions, percentage of voluntary returns, difference in employment rates between Union and non-Union nationals, and convergence of recognition rates for asylum applicants); *notes that these* are not directly related to the performance of AMIF, although spending from the fund may contribute to the corresponding target;

139. *Points to* four general impact indicators (on actual returns compared to return decisions, percentage of voluntary returns, difference in employment rates between Union and non-Union nationals, and convergence of recognition rates for asylum applicants) *that* are not directly related to the performance of AMIF, although spending from the fund may contribute to the corresponding target;

Or. en

Amendment 571

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 139 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

139 a. Notes that the evaluation of output indicators is difficult in this policy area; is concerned that EU funding has neither improved the humanitarian situation in refugee camps nor effectively protected the external borders; calls on the Commission for a detailed clarification, in particular for admission procedures at external borders; calls on the Commission to investigate where exactly the EU funds have been invested in the AMIF programs and which specific improvements they caused; requests a corresponding report from the Commission for each of the member states concerned;

Or. en

Amendment 572

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 139 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

139 b. This deficits are mainly caused by the length of asylum procedures, sluggish integration and insufficient return rates; calls on the EU Commission and the member states to make immediate legislative progress;

Or. en

Amendment 573

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 139 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

139 a. Welcomes the Court's observation that the Commission's interim evaluation indicates that AMIF is relevant and that it funded interventions that corresponded to the needs of Member States;

Or. en

Amendment 574
Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 140

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

140. Notes that 5 of the 24 indicator milestones for **2020** *have* already been achieved in previous years, but targets have not been adjusted upwards in line with good financial management practice to reflect the potential for more efficiency gains;

140. Notes, ***however some limitations in AMIF performance indicators, identified by the Court such as that two thirds of the indicators are output indicators and*** that 5 of the 24 indicator milestones for **2020***have* already been achieved in previous years, but targets have not been adjusted upwards in line with good financial management practice to reflect the potential for more efficiency gains;

Or. en

Amendment 575
Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 140

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

140. Notes that 5 of the 24 indicator milestones for 2020 have already been achieved in previous years, but targets have

140. Notes that 5 of the 24 indicator milestones for 2020 have already been achieved in previous years, but targets have

not been adjusted upwards in line with good financial management practice to reflect the potential for more *efficiency gains*;

not been adjusted upwards in line with good financial management practice to reflect the *political will and* potential for *achieving even* more;

Or. en

Amendment 576

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 140 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

140 a. Notes that some AMIF indicators are not on track to meet their targets, that the Commission has not developed a performance monitoring framework for EMAS funded projects and that AMPR and programme statements provide little information on the progress achieved under important indicators;

Or. en

Amendment 577

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 140 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

140 b. Asks the Commission to take measures to address the shortcoming identified by the Court and to improve the information included in AMPR and programme statements, which will allow for better monitoring of the progress achieved by the Fund;

Or. en

Amendment 578
Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 140 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

140 a. Notes with concern that the Court has found a significant delay regarding the achievement of the objective that the AMIF had set for the integration and legal migration;

Or. en

Amendment 579
Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 141

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

141. Is deeply concerned that the AMIF indicators are not on track to meet their targets in terms of integration and legal migration as well as of return policies and irregular migration; ***deleted***

Or. en

Amendment 580
Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 141

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

141. Is deeply concerned that the AMIF indicators are not on track to meet their targets in terms of integration and legal migration as well as of return policies and ***deleted***

irregular migration;

Or. en

Amendment 581
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 141

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

141. Is deeply concerned that the AMIF indicators are not on track to meet their targets in terms of integration and legal migration as well as of return policies and irregular migration;

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 582
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 141 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

141 a. Reminds that performance information on the AMIS is based on data provided by Member States in their annual reports on the implementation of their national programmes, take notes that in 2019, the Commission's internal audit service identified the need to strengthen its monitoring of the implementation of national programmes, and to improve the reliability and consistency of the data reported by Member States;

Or. en

Amendment 583

Luke Ming Flanagan

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 141 b (new)**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

141 b. Regrets that targets are only the cumulative figures set by the Member States, without any quantified need being included in the performance reporting framework.; take notes that because this lack, the court cannot assess what proportion of total needs AMIF and Member States have met;

Or. en

Amendment 584

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 142**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

142. Is deeply concerned that only limited, aggregated performance information is available on the overall EMAS²⁰ related spending (initial allocation of EUR 100 million was increased to EUR 2,2 billion for the period to 2020, representing 30 % of the fund, however, the Commission has not developed a performance monitoring framework for EMAS funded projects);

deleted

²⁰ *AMIF emergency assistance*

Or. en

Amendment 585

Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 142

Motion for a resolution

142. Is **deeply** concerned that only limited, aggregated performance information is available on the overall EMAS²⁰ related spending (initial allocation of EUR 100 million was increased to EUR 2,2 billion for the period to 2020, representing 30 % of the fund, however, the Commission has not developed a performance monitoring framework for EMAS funded projects);

²⁰ AMIF emergency assistance

Amendment

142. Is concerned that only limited, aggregated performance information is available on the overall EMAS²⁰ related spending (initial allocation of EUR 100 million was increased to EUR 2,2 billion for the period to 2020, representing 30 % of the fund, however, the Commission has not developed a performance monitoring framework for EMAS funded projects);

²⁰ AMIF emergency assistance

Or. en

Amendment 586

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 143

Motion for a resolution

143. Is deeply concerned that the AMPR and programme statements provide little information about economy and efficiency in implementing the fund, or about the cost effectiveness of AMIF actions;

Amendment

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 587

Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 143

Motion for a resolution

143. Is deeply concerned that the AMPR and programme statements provide little

Amendment

143. Takes note that the information available points to the relevance of

information about economy and efficiency in implementing the fund, *or about the cost effectiveness of AMIF actions;*

spending and its EU added-value, but indicators defined do provide little information about economy and efficiency in implementing the fund

Or. en

Amendment 588
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 143 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

143 a. Reminds that the creation of a Common European Asylum System is only possible through a political consensus which is clearly missing;

Or. en

Amendment 589
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 143 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

143 b. Is concerned that backlog to process asylum applications by Members States as well as serious deficiencies in the implementation of EU asylum acquis still persists;

Or. en

Amendment 590
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 143 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

143 c. Reminds that resettlement is a safe and legal pathway for refugees to enter the EU and that, according to UNHCR, 1.44 million are in need of resettlement globally; is concerned that the EU only resettled 9,000 refugees in 2019; highlights in this regard that, AMIF remains below its own target;

Or. en

Amendment 591

Luke Ming Flanagan

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 143 d (new)**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

143 d. takes note that the AMPR and the programme statements give a positive picture of what AMIF has achieved for activities relating to integration, with over 6 million individuals benefitting from integration measures; unfortunately though, their long-term impact cannot yet be known also because significant differences remain between in migrants' employment prospects and those of EU nationals.; await the ex post evaluation which will be published in 2024;

Or. en

Amendment 592

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 144**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

144. Is deeply concerned that the AMPR and programme statements do not

deleted

report on measures aiming to attract highly-skilled workers to the Union through legal migration schemes and the indicators are not suitable for reporting on such measures;

Or. en

Amendment 593
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 144

Motion for a resolution

144. Is *deeply* concerned that the AMPR and programme statements do not report on measures aiming to attract highly-skilled workers to the Union through legal migration schemes and the indicators are not suitable for reporting on such measures;

Amendment

144. Is concerned that the AMPR and programme statements do not report on measures aiming to attract highly-skilled workers to the Union through legal migration schemes and the indicators are not suitable for reporting on such measures;

Or. en

Amendment 594
Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 145

Motion for a resolution

145. Is deeply concerned that the AMIF indicators are not on track to meet their targets in terms of ratio of irregular migrants returned to return decisions issued, voluntary returnees and removed returnees;

deleted

Amendment

Or. en

Amendment 595

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 145

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

145. Is deeply concerned that the AMIF indicators are not on track to meet their targets in terms of ratio of irregular migrants returned to return decisions issued, voluntary returnees and removed returnees; **deleted**

Or. en

Amendment 596
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 145

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

145. Is deeply concerned that the AMIF indicators are not on track to meet their targets in terms of ratio of irregular migrants returned to return decisions issued, voluntary returnees and removed returnees;

145. In term of returns policy, seconds the Court evaluation that voluntary returns are preferable because they are less damaging to relations with non-EU countries and are more cost-effective than forced returns

Or. en

Amendment 597
Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 146

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

146. Is deeply concerned that the return rate for individuals who no longer have the right to stay on Union territory is **deleted**

unsatisfactory (31,5 %);

Or. en

Amendment 598

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 146

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

146. *Is deeply concerned that the return rate for individuals who no longer have the right to stay on Union territory is unsatisfactory (31,5 %);*

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 599

Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 146

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

146. *Is deeply concerned that* the return rate for individuals who no longer have the right to stay on Union territory *is*** unsatisfactory (31,5 %);**

146. *takes note that the Court evaluate* the return rate for individuals who no longer have the right to stay on Union territory unsatisfactory (31,5 %); *considers that ultimately, the effective implementation of return strategies depends to a large extent on the political context***^{30a};**

^{30a} paragraph 5.39 of the Report of the European Court of Auditors on the performance of the EU budget - Status at the end of 2019

Or. en

Amendment 600

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 146

Motion for a resolution

146. Is deeply concerned that the return rate for individuals who no longer have the right to stay on Union territory is unsatisfactory (31,5 %);

Amendment

146. Is deeply concerned that the return rate for individuals who no longer have the right to stay on Union territory is **structurally** unsatisfactory (31,5 %);

Or. en

Amendment 601

Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 147

Motion for a resolution

147. Is deeply concerned in relation to the weakening in the performance of return operations due to the following reasons:

- length of asylum process;***
- missing links between asylum and return;***
- procedures obstructing coordination and information-sharing;***
- absence of robust and integrated return case management system;***
- no mutual recognition and no systematic recording of return decisions in the Union;***
- absconding and difficulty in locating returnable migrants, including the tracking of voluntary departures;***
- insufficient capacity of pre-removal detention centres;***
- difficult cooperation with migrants' third***

Amendment

deleted

countries of origin;

*- limited use of development aid for
facilitating cooperation with migrants'
third countries of origin;*

*- low performance of Assisted Voluntary
Return and Reintegration;*

Or. en

Amendment 602

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 147

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

147. Is deeply concerned in relation to **deleted**
the weakening in the performance of
return operations due to the following
reasons:

- length of asylum process;

*- missing links between asylum and
return;*

*- procedures obstructing coordination and
information-sharing;*

*- absence of robust and integrated return
case management system;*

*- no mutual recognition and no systematic
recording of return decisions in the
Union;*

*- absconding and difficulty in locating
returnable migrants, including the
tracking of voluntary departures;*

*- insufficient capacity of pre-removal
detention centres;*

*- difficult cooperation with migrants' third
countries of origin;*

*- limited use of development aid for
facilitating cooperation with migrants'
third countries of origin;*

***- low performance of Assisted Voluntary
Return and Reintegration;***

Or. en

Amendment 603

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 147

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

147. Is deeply concerned in relation to the weakening in the performance of return operations due to the following reasons: ***deleted***

- length of asylum process;***
- missing links between asylum and return;***
- procedures obstructing coordination and information-sharing;***
- absence of robust and integrated return case management system;***
- no mutual recognition and no systematic recording of return decisions in the Union;***
- absconding and difficulty in locating returnable migrants, including the tracking of voluntary departures;***
- insufficient capacity of pre-removal detention centres;***
- difficult cooperation with migrants' third countries of origin;***
- limited use of development aid for facilitating cooperation with migrants' third countries of origin;***
- low performance of Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration;***

Or. en

Amendment 604
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 147 – indent 1

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *length of asylum process;* *deleted*

Or. en

Amendment 605
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 147 – indent 2

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *missing links between asylum and return;* *deleted*

Or. en

Amendment 606
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 147 – indent 3

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *procedures obstructing coordination and information-sharing;* *deleted*

Or. en

Amendment 607
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 147 – indent 4

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *absence of robust and integrated return case management system;* *deleted*

Or. en

Amendment 608

Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 147 – indent 5

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *no mutual recognition and no systematic recording of return decisions in the Union;* *deleted*

Or. en

Amendment 609

Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 147 – indent 6

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *absconding and difficulty in locating returnable migrants, including the tracking of voluntary departures;* *deleted*

Or. en

Amendment 610

Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 147 – indent 7

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *insufficient capacity of pre-* *deleted*

removal detention centres;

Or. en

Amendment 611
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 147 – indent 8

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *difficult cooperation with* *deleted*
migrants' third countries of origin;

Or. en

Amendment 612
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 147 – indent 9

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *limited use of development aid for* *deleted*
facilitating cooperation with migrants'
third countries of origin;

Or. en

Amendment 613
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 147 – indent 10

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *low performance of Assisted* *deleted*
Voluntary Return and Reintegration;

Or. en

Amendment 614
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 147 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

147 a. Is deeply concerned that the assessment of factors leading to a relatively low return rate is not based on an impact assessment that the European Commission should have carried out; stresses the inherent risks in this regard for Member States to violate fundamental rights because of a disproportionate focus on increasing the return rates at all costs;

Or. en

Amendment 615
Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 148

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

148. *Is concerned in relation to* the existence of two parallel Union funded schemes supporting the same type of return activities (AMIF NPs and Frontex return support) ***and insufficient*** coordination between both ***for forced return operations;***

148. *Notes* the existence of two parallel Union funded schemes supporting the same type of return activities (AMIF NPs and Frontex return support), ***as well as that the coordination is mainly responsibility of the Member States; calls therefore on them to ensure better*** coordination between both ***schemes;***

Or. en

Amendment 616
Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 148

Motion for a resolution

148. Is ***concerned in relation to*** the existence of two parallel Union funded schemes supporting the same type of return activities (AMIF NPs and Frontex return support) and insufficient coordination between both ***for forced return operations***;

Amendment

148. Is ***aware of*** the existence of two parallel Union funded schemes supporting the same type of return activities (AMIF NPs and Frontex return support) and ***points to the risk of*** insufficient coordination between both;

Or. en

Amendment 617 Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 148 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

148 a. Expresses its deep concern about the repeated and documented Frontex's involvement in pushbacks; stresses the seriousness of these illegal actions performed by Frontex vessels and condemns any potential complicit behaviour in maritime pushback operations; considers that internal reporting mechanisms, as well as parliamentary and public scrutiny over Frontex's activities, must be reinforced; Calls on the Commission, as guardian of the Treaties, to firmly demand an independent investigation regarding these reports and the way in which Frontex's operations are monitored to ensure compliance with international legislation and the principles and values regarding the protection of those at risk at sea;

Or. en

Amendment 618 Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 148 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

148 b. Deplores the restricted access by some Member States of existing national human rights institutions to border facilities and areas impeding them to exercise their mandate to monitor respect of fundamental rights and the rule of law at the external borders; calls for the establishment of an EU-wide mechanism where independent and competent national human rights institutions, and NGOs, EU agencies such as the FRA as well as international organisations such as UNHCR should be part of; insists on the need to ensure the independence, transparency and effectiveness of such an instrument;

Or. en

Amendment 619

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Arnaud Danjean, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 148 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

148 a. Notes with astonishment the Commission's reaction to allegations of fundamental rights concerns at Frontex; is concerned that the communication and cooperation between the Commission and Frontex seems stagnant; calls on the Commission to provide Frontex with clear legal guidance to ensure appropriate and lawful procedures for critical situations at external (sea) borders given the complex geopolitical challenges of these operations;

Or. en

Amendment 620

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 149 – indent 4

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *use the lessons learned from the emergency relocation schemes (including from the situation in the receiving Member State after relocation) and build on this experience for any possible voluntary relocation mechanism in the future;*

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 621

Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 149 – indent 4

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- use the lessons learned from the emergency relocation schemes *(including from the situation in the receiving Member State after relocation) and build on this experience for any possible voluntary relocation mechanism in the future;*

- use the lessons learned from the emergency relocation schemes *calls for an urgent stepping up of emergency relocation schemes in order to share responsibility with Member States of first entry until the setting up of a permanent automatic responsibility -sharing mechanism;*

Or. en

Amendment 622

Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 149 – indent 4 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *reinforce the management of national asylum systems;*

Or. en

Amendment 623
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 149 – indent 4 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *address its failure to address persistent allegations of serious human rights abuses by Croatian authorities on the shared borders with Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) and Serbia;*

Or. en

Amendment 624
Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 149 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

149 a. carefully monitor the efficiency of the actions led by Frontex in order to better protect the external borders of the European Union;

Or. en

Amendment 625
Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 150 – indent 2

Motion for a resolution

- strengthen the performance-monitoring framework by a) ensuring that AMIF EMAS projects contain output and outcome indicators with clear targets and baselines where appropriate, and justifying when this is not the case; b) monitoring and reporting the outcomes achieved by EMAS-funded projects; c) for the new MFF 2021-2027, designing the AMIF CMEF indicators, including their baselines and targets before the 2021-2027 projects start;

Amendment

- strengthen the performance-monitoring framework by a) ensuring that AMIF EMAS projects contain output and outcome indicators with clear targets and baselines where appropriate, and justifying when this is not the case; b) monitoring and reporting the outcomes achieved by EMAS-funded projects; c) for the new MFF 2021-2027, designing the AMIF CMEF **and IMBF** indicators, including their baselines and targets before the 2021-2027 projects start;

Or. en

Amendment 626

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 150 – indent 2

Motion for a resolution

- strengthen the performance-monitoring framework by a) ensuring that AMIF EMAS projects contain **output** and outcome indicators with clear targets and baselines where appropriate, and justifying when this is not the case; b) monitoring and reporting the outcomes achieved by EMAS-funded projects; c) for the new MFF 2021-2027, designing the AMIF CMEF indicators, including their baselines and targets before the 2021-2027 projects start;

Amendment

- strengthen the performance-monitoring framework by a) ensuring that AMIF EMAS projects contain **input** and outcome indicators with clear targets and baselines where appropriate, and justifying when this is not the case; b) monitoring and reporting the outcomes achieved by EMAS-funded projects; c) for the new MFF 2021-2027, designing the AMIF CMEF indicators, including their baselines and targets before the 2021-2027 projects start;

Or. en

Amendment 627

Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 150 – indent 3 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *provide detailed information about the different projects funded in 2019 under the ISF Borders and Visas delegated act, including access to the project applications, their evaluations and the revised national programmes;*

Or. en

Amendment 628
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 150 – indent 3 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *abide by Article 208 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) that stipulates that development assistance shall have as its primary objective the reduction and, in the long term, the eradication of poverty and not condition allocation of EU development assistance in bilateral or multilateral partnerships with developing countries on cooperation on migration policies^{31a};*

^{31a} *LIBE opinion on human rights protection and EU external migration policy, see:*
https://www.europarl.europa.eu/meps/en/197681/SIRA_REGO/main-activities/opinions

Or. en

Amendment 629
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 150 – indent 4

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *use development aid as a tool to facilitate better cooperation with migrants' countries of origin²¹ ;*

deleted

²¹ *European Parliament resolution of 25 November 2020 on improving development effectiveness and the efficiency of aid (2019/2184(INI))*

Or. en

Amendment 630

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 150 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

150 a. Calls on the Commission to create a data base regarding all cases of possible non-compliance with the Charter of Human Rights, including the allegations, reports, their investigation and follow-up actions;

Or. en

Amendment 631

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 151 – introductory part

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

151. Welcomes the recommendations issued by the Internal Audit Service of DG HOME for 2019 such as:

151. Welcomes the recommendations issued by the Internal Audit Service of **the Commission for** DG HOME for 2019 such as:

Amendment 632

Joachim Kuhs, Jean-François Jalkh

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 151 – introductory part

Motion for a resolution

151. Welcomes the recommendations issued by the Internal Audit Service of **DG HOME** for 2019 such as:

Amendment

151. Welcomes the recommendations issued **to DG Home** by the Internal Audit Service of **the Commission** for 2019 such as:

Amendment 633

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 151 – indent 1

Motion for a resolution

- setting up and planning of DG HOME's audit activity (**DG HOME should** define and communicate the mission statement and mandate of the audit function, adjust roles and responsibilities, reporting lines and milestones for the clearance of accounts exercise; updating the audit strategies; analysing the resource needs for the audit activity);

Amendment

- setting up and planning of DG HOME's audit activity (define and communicate the mission statement and mandate of the audit function, adjust roles and responsibilities, reporting lines and milestones for the clearance of accounts exercise; updating the audit strategies; analysing the resource needs for the audit activity);

Amendment 634

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 151 – indent 2

Motion for a resolution

- executing the audit plan (**DG HOME needs to** plan and launch audits as soon as possible in the year after the adoption of the Annual Work programme and review of annual control reports and audit opinions; harmonising milestones for the audit process steps; ensuring that the final audit reports are sent to beneficiaries without delay and that this is monitored by senior management);

Amendment

- executing the audit plan (plan and launch audits as soon as possible in the year after the adoption of the Annual Work programme and review of annual control reports and audit opinions; harmonising milestones for the audit process steps; ensuring that the final audit reports are sent to beneficiaries without delay and that this is monitored by senior management);

Or. en

Amendment 635

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 151 – indent 3

Motion for a resolution

- clearing of accounts (**DG HOME should** ensure that clearance decisions are made on time; it should clarify the procedure for accounts submitted before the year-end); adapting the clearance procedure to new organisational structure and improving the communication between financial units and audit sector (set-up and planning of the audit activity; execution of the audit plan; clearance of accounts);

Amendment

- clearing of accounts (ensure that clearance decisions are made on time; it should clarify the procedure for accounts submitted before the year-end); adapting the clearance procedure to new organisational structure and improving the communication between financial units and audit sector (set-up and planning of the audit activity; execution of the audit plan; clearance of accounts);

Or. en

Amendment 636

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 152

Motion for a resolution

152. Welcomes the ongoing

Amendment

152. Welcomes the ongoing

implementation by the DG JUST of recommendations issued by the Internal Audit Service of DG JUST relating to the impact assessment process and implementation of better regulation guidelines and toolbox;

implementation by the DG JUST of recommendations issued by the Internal Audit Service of *the Commission for* DG JUST relating to the impact assessment process and implementation of better regulation guidelines and toolbox;

Or. en

Amendment 637
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 155 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

155 a. Regrets that for 2019, the value of expenditure subject to audit by the Court in this area was €8.2 billion, reducing the share of audit in this chapter t; reiterates its request to enlarge the sample and to produce a clear error rate for this chapter;

Or. en

Amendment 638
Monika Hohlmeier, Niclas Herbst, Tomáš Zdechovský, David Lega, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 156 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

156 a. Is concerned about the hate speech and violence taught in Palestinian school textbooks and used in schools by UNRWA; reiterates its position that all schoolbooks and school materials supported by Union funds must be in line with UNESCO standards of peace, tolerance, coexistence, and non-violence; requests that all school material, which is not in compliance with these standards

will be removed immediately and requests UNRWA to put in place a coherent control system to review and modify curriculums; underlines that one way of ensuring transparency and conformity of school materials is to publish in an open-source platform all its educational materials for teachers, pupils and students as well as its reviews of host country textbooks to allow review by third parties;

Or. en

Amendment 639

Derk Jan Eppink, Bert-Jan Ruissen

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 156 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

156a. Is concerned at the continued failure to remove problematic material from Palestinian schoolbooks or to act effectively against hate speech and violence in such textbooks; insists that the earmarking of EU funding for salaries paid to teachers and public servants in the education sector must be made conditional on educational material and course content complying with UNESCO standards of peace, tolerance, coexistence and non-violence, in accordance with the decision of the EU Education Ministers of 17 March 2015 in Paris and the European Parliament decision of 13 May 2020 on discharge in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2018, Section III – Commission (2019/2056(DEC));

Or. nl

Amendment 640

Derk Jan Eppink, Bert-Jan Ruissen

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 156 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

156b. Is concerned at loopholes in EU legislation regarding the funding of terrorism, which could allow EU funding earmarked for the Palestinian Authority to be diverted into organisations on the EU terrorist list; [1] calls on the Commission to close these legal loopholes and closely monitor the use of Union funding by third parties to ensure that none of it is used for any form of terrorism and/or religious and political radicalisation; [1] Palestinian Media Watch, 23 June 2020.

Or. nl

Amendment 641
David Lega

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 156 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

156 a. Is concerned about the effectiveness of UNRWA's mechanisms of adherence to UN values in educational materials used and taught by UNRWA staff in its schools, which contain hate speech and incitement to violence. Insists that UNRWA acts in full transparency and publishes in an open-source platform all its educational materials for teachers and students, as well as its reviews of host country textbooks used to ensure that content adheres to UN values and does not encourage hatred. Insists that EU funded educational material must reflect standards of peace, tolerance, coexistence, and non-violence, as was decided upon by Union education ministers in Paris on 17 March 2015.

Amendment 642

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 156 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

156 a. Notes that the Court found that EU aid helped to restore and maintain access to safe and good-quality education during humanitarian crises. Welcomes the relevance of projects regarding the problems identified. Notes that projects were able to achieve most of their objectives. Support the Court's recommendation and calls the Commission to finetune its support for education in emergencies in order to reach a good level of efficiency and relevance

Amendment 643

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 156 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

156 a. Welcomes that transactions related to budget support and projects implemented by international organisations under the 'notional approach' were less prone to error and that in 2019 the Court did not detect any errors in these areas.

Amendment 644
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 156 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

156 a. Reminds that development and cooperation policy are meant to eradicate poverty and reduce inequality and should reach only its intended beneficiaries;

Or. en

Amendment 645
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 156 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

156 b. Reiterates that the allocation of EU development assistance in bilateral or multilateral partnerships with developing countries cannot be conditional on cooperation with the EU on migration policies, as this would undermine the EU's legal obligation to PCD (Policy Coherence for Development and under the European Consensus on Development, as well as the primary purpose of ODA (official development assistance) of eradicating poverty, and would be at odds with the aid effectiveness principle of country ownership^{33a};

^{33a} DEVE opinion on “human rights protection and the EU external migration policy”, paragraph 12

Or. en

Amendment 646

Luke Ming Flanagan

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 156 c (new)**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

156 c. Insists on the importance of the European Parliament's active participation in the development of partnership and cooperation agreements with third countries; stresses that future partnership agreements should be subject to parliamentary scrutiny and based on the principles of solidarity, shared responsibility, respect for human rights, the rule of law and international humanitarian law^{34a};

^{34a} DEVE opinion on "human rights protection and the EU external migration policy", paragraph 17

Or. en

**Amendment 647
Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 156 d (new)**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

156 d. Expresses concerns over the demolition, dismantlement or confiscation of 104 EU-funded assets in Palestinian territory by the Israeli authorities throughout year 2019, whose value is calculated to amount to around 500,000 euros; calls on the Commission to increase its ongoing efforts to obtain restitution or compensation from the Israeli authorities;

Or. en

Amendment 648
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 156 e (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

156 e. Expresses concerns about the use of EU development funds for de-risking private investment given the lack of evidence as to the capacity of this financial modality to demonstrate additionally and fulfil development objectives, as recently reported per the final review of EFSD - European Fund for Sustainable Development - as well as the opinion of the European Court of Auditors (No 7/2020); stresses the need for donors to prioritise grant-based financing as the default option, especially to LDCs (Least Developed Countries), and not favour blending, guarantee or any loans over grants, that fall short of SDGs and could increase the burden of debt;

Or. en

Amendment 649
Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 157

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

157. Regrets that the Union is still practicing budget support to third Countries which is regulated by legal provisions of a broad scope creating a risk of loose interpretation by the Commission regarding the meeting of general conditions; that the Court ‘cannot cover what happens beyond the moment the Commission pays aid to the recipient country, since these funds then merge with that country’s own budget

deleted

*resources*²² ;

²² P.211

Or. en

Amendment 650

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 157

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

157. Regrets that the Union is still practicing budget support to third Countries which is regulated by legal provisions of a broad scope creating a risk of loose interpretation by the Commission regarding the meeting of general conditions; that the Court ‘cannot cover what happens beyond the moment the Commission pays aid to the recipient country, since these funds then merge with that country’s own budget resources’²² ;

deleted

²² P.211

Or. en

Amendment 651

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 157

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

157. Regrets that the Union is still practicing budget support to third Countries which is regulated by legal provisions of a broad scope creating a risk

157. Calls on the Commission to fully introduce the principle of conditionality and regular ex-ante and ex-post checks on the regularity and performance of the

of loose interpretation by the Commission regarding the meeting of general conditions; that the Court ‘cannot cover what happens beyond the moment the Commission pays aid to the recipient country, since these funds then merge with that country’s own budget resources’²² ;

²² P.211

Union’s funds for support to third countries and makes sure that legal framework that provides for the these support instruments allows for full recovery of funds in case of discovered irregularities^{1a};

^{1a} P.211

Or. en

Amendment 652
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 157

Motion for a resolution

157. *Regrets that the Union is still practicing* budget support to third Countries *which is regulated by* legal provisions *of* a broad scope *creating a risk of loose* interpretation by the Commission regarding the meeting of general conditions; *that* the Court ‘cannot cover what happens beyond the moment the Commission pays aid to the recipient country, since these funds then merge with that country’s own budget resources’²² ;

²² P.211

Amendment

157. *Takes note that as for the regularity of transactions, the speeding area of* budget support to third Countries *is less prone to error; nevertheless take notes that because of the* legal provisions *which leave* a broad scope *of* interpretation by the Commission regarding the meeting of general conditions, the Court ‘cannot cover what happens beyond the moment the Commission pays aid to the recipient country, since these funds then merge with that country’s own budget resources’;

Or. en

Amendment 653
David Lega

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 157

Motion for a resolution

157. Regrets that the Union is still practicing budget support to third Countries which is regulated by legal provisions of a broad scope creating a risk of loose interpretation by the Commission regarding the meeting of general conditions; that the Court ‘cannot cover what happens beyond the moment the Commission pays aid to the recipient country, since these funds then merge with that country’s own budget resources’²² ;

²² P.211

Amendment

157. Regrets that the Union is still practicing budget support to third Countries which is regulated by legal provisions of a broad scope creating a risk of loose interpretation by the Commission regarding the meeting of general conditions; that the Court ‘cannot cover what happens beyond the moment the Commission pays aid to the recipient country, since these funds then merge with that country’s own budget resources’²² ; ***notes that this risks undermining the level of accountability and transparency of Union action and spending; insists that the Commission ensures that the delivery of external aid is subject to the rule of law and respect for human rights in recipients countries; stresses, in particular, the need to guarantee that no Union funds, by the recipient country and third parties and/or natural persons, are allocated or linked to any cause or form of terrorism and/or religious and political radicalisation;***

²² P.211

Or. en

Amendment 654
Maria Grapini

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 157

Motion for a resolution

157. Regrets that the Union is still practicing budget support to third Countries which is regulated by legal provisions of a broad scope creating a risk of loose interpretation by the Commission regarding the meeting of general conditions; that the Court ‘cannot cover what happens beyond the moment the Commission pays aid to the recipient

Amendment

157. Regrets that the Union is still practicing budget support to third Countries which is regulated by legal provisions of a broad scope creating a risk of loose interpretation by the Commission regarding the meeting of general conditions; that the Court ‘cannot cover what happens beyond the moment the Commission pays aid to the recipient

country, since these funds then merge with that country's own budget resources'²²;

²² P.211

country, since these funds then merge with that country's own budget resources'²²;

notes that this risks undermining the level of accountability and transparency regarding Union actions and expenditure; urges the Commission to ensure that external aid is made conditional on respect for the rule of law and human rights in recipient countries; stresses in particular the need to ensure that no Union funding is allocated or related to any terrorist cause or manifestation through the actions of recipient countries or third parties;

²² P.211

Or. ro

Amendment 655

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 158 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

158 a. Recalls the importance of the promotion of Union values abroad, such as democracy, rule of law and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms; thus calls the Commission to use Pre-Accession Fund to support democratic transformation and ensure the proper implementation of public policies and judicial reforms in the Western Balkans;

Or. en

Amendment 656

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 158 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

158 a. Notes with concern that DG NEAR, in its 2019 Annual Activity Report, had to issue a reservation concerning the difficulties in monitoring adequately all projects in Libya and Syria (non-quantified reservation) and a reservation concerning the errors in expenditure in Direct Management Grants (quantified reservation);

Or. en

Amendment 657

Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 158 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

158 a. Is worried that the court continues to have reservations about the reliability of the study's results;

Or. en

Amendment 658

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Arnaud Danjean, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 161

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

161. Points out that after the judgement of the General Court of the Union in December 2015 on Western Sahara, Morocco suspended political dialogue covering all Union external policies such as development policy, trade, foreign and security policy from December 2015 until January 2019;

161. Points out that after the judgement of the General Court of the Union in December 2015 on Western Sahara, Morocco suspended political dialogue covering all Union external policies such as development policy, trade, foreign and security policy from December 2015 until January 2019; ***notes the Commission's***

comments to Special Report 09/2019 that as "policy dialogue was never suspended during the period of difficult political relations between the EU and Morocco, the Commission considers there were no grounds to develop an alternative strategy";

Or. en

Amendment 659

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Arnaud Danjean, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 161 a (new)**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

161 a. Underlines that Morocco is a long-standing and strategic partner and neighbour of the EU with fruitful cooperation leading to positive results;

Or. en

Amendment 660

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 162 – introductory part**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

162. ***Stresses*** that the Court identified several ***problems hampering*** the effectiveness of Budget Support:

162. ***Notes*** that the Court identified several ***challenges to*** the effectiveness of Budget Support:

Or. en

Amendment 661

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 163 – indent 1

Motion for a resolution

- strengthen the focus of Union budget support in Morocco, namely apply a more transparent and better documented method to allocate amounts to sectoral budget support programmes;

Amendment

- strengthen the focus of Union budget support in Morocco, namely apply a more transparent and better documented method to allocate amounts to sectoral budget support programmes ***and continue to monitor the performance***;

Or. en

Amendment 662
Markus Pieper, Tomáš Zdechovský

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 163 – indent 2

Motion for a resolution

- improve the design of target and performance ***indicators, specifically make a greater use of outcome-oriented indicators***;

Amendment

- improve the design of target and performance ***results***

Or. en

Amendment 663
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 163 – indent 6

Motion for a resolution

- ***finally conclude the readmission agreement for which the Council granted the Commission a negotiating mandate in 2000, especially as Morocco is one of the biggest beneficiaries of Union development support²⁵***;

Amendment

deleted

²⁵ ***Question for written answer E-000331/2020, Subject: EU-Morocco***

Amendment 664

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 163 – indent 6

Motion for a resolution

- finally conclude the readmission agreement for which the Council granted the Commission a negotiating mandate in 2000, especially as Morocco is one of the biggest beneficiaries of Union development support²⁵ ;

²⁵ Question for written answer E-000331/2020, Subject: EU-Morocco readmission agreement

Amendment

- finally ***fastly*** conclude the readmission agreement for which the Council granted the Commission a negotiating mandate in 2000, especially as Morocco is one of the biggest beneficiaries of Union development support²⁵ ;

²⁵ Question for written answer E-000331/2020, Subject: EU-Morocco readmission agreement

Amendment 665

Maria Grapini

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 163 – indent 6 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- ***verify in detail the use of Union funds by third parties, through their affiliated entities, to ensure that no funds are allocated or related to any terrorist causes or manifestations; ensure that these Union funds are proactively recovered and that the recipients thereof are excluded from future EU funding;***

Amendment 666

David Lega

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 163 – indent 6 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *thoroughly verify the use of Union funds by third entities, their affiliates, and/or natural persons to ensure that no funds are allocated or linked to any cause or form of terrorism and/or religious and political radicalisation; and to ensure that these Union funds are proactively recovered, and recipients involved are excluded from future Union funding.*

Or. en

Amendment 667

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 163 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- 163 a. Takes note of the Commission's replies to Special Report 09/2019, particularly that the Commission concludes that EU cooperation has contributed to the implementation of reforms in Morocco, which had a positive impact on the country's socio-economic development;*

Or. en

Amendment 668

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 164 – introductory part

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

164. Notes ***with deep concern, as to the DG DEVCO residual error rate study, that:***

164. Notes ***that*** DG DEVCO ***implements most of the external aid instruments financed from both the EU general budget and the EDFs; takes note that the Court presented within its Annual Report on the activities funded by the 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th EDFs for the 2019 financial year its observations on systems, there liability of the AAR and the Director-General's declaration for 2019 which refer to DG DEVCO's entire area of responsibility;***

Or. en

Amendment 669

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 164 – indent 1

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- ***The expenditure under the 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th EDF recorded in 2019 is materially affected by error; according to the Court the estimated level of error is 3,5 %;***

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 670

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 164 – indent 2

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- ***43,6 % of the estimated level of error came from expenditure not incurred (i.e. commitments presented as expenditure or claimed expenditure***

deleted

calculated incorrectly);

Or. en

Amendment 671

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 164 – indent 3

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *22,1 % of the estimated level of error came from serious failure to respect public procurement rules (i.e. unjustified decision by the evaluation committee);* *deleted*

Or. en

Amendment 672

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 164 – indent 4

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *12,7% of the estimated level of error came from ineligible expenditure (i.e. significant raise of local staff salaries after the contract's conclusion);* *deleted*

Or. en

Amendment 673

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 164 – indent 5

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- the Commission and its implementing partners made more errors in
- *Notes the Court's observation that* the Commission and its implementing

transactions relating to programme estimates, grants, contribution agreements with IOs and delegation agreements with EU Member States' cooperation agencies than they did with other forms of support (such as those covering works, supply and service contracts). Of the 65 transactions of this type 25 (38 %) contained quantifiable errors, which accounted for 71,7 % of the estimated level of error;

partners made more errors in transactions relating to programme estimates, grants, contribution agreements with IOs and delegation agreements with EU Member States' cooperation agencies than they did with other forms of support (such as those covering works, supply and service contracts). Of the 65 transactions of this type 25 (38 %) contained quantifiable errors, which accounted for 71,7 % of the estimated level of error;

Or. en

Amendment 674

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 164 – indent 6

Motion for a resolution

- the DG DEVCO's residual error rate study does not constitute an assurance engagement or an audit; it is based on the residual error rate methodology and manual provided by DG DEVCO;

Amendment

- ***Takes note of the Court's opinion that*** the DG DEVCO's residual error rate study does not constitute an assurance engagement or an audit; it is based on the residual error rate methodology and manual provided by DG DEVCO;

Or. en

Amendment 675

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 164 – indent 7

Motion for a resolution

- ***the DG DEVCO's control system based on ex ante checks has weaknesses*** such as limitations in checks on public procurement procedures, a very low number of on-the-spot checks in the country of project implementation, DG DEVCO's residual error rate estimation

Amendment

- ***Observes that the Court outlines four major factors affecting the RER used by DG DEVCO*** such as limitations in checks on public procurement procedures, a very low number of on-the-spot checks in the country of project implementation, DG DEVCO's residual error rate estimation

method itself and partial or full reliance on previous control work;

method itself and partial or full reliance on previous control work;

Or. en

Amendment 676

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 164 – indent 8

Motion for a resolution

- the director-general's declaration of assurance in the 2019 AAR does not include any reservations, as the two reservations remaining in 2018 have been lifted and no new ones have been issued; before lifting these reservations in 2019, DG DEVCO had significantly reduced their scope (i.e. the share of expenditure covered by them) in 2017 and 2018, which consequently does not give a true and fair view of the risks in DG DEVCO's overall area of responsibility;

Amendment

- ***Takes note of the Court's observation that*** the director-general's declaration of assurance in the 2019 AAR does not include any reservations, as the two reservations remaining in 2018 have been lifted and no new ones have been issued; before lifting these reservations in 2019, DG DEVCO had significantly reduced their scope (i.e. the share of expenditure covered by them) in 2017 and 2018, which consequently does not give a true and fair view of the risks in DG DEVCO's overall area of responsibility;

Or. en

Amendment 677

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 164 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

164 a. Takes note from the written answers of the Commission for the hearing in CONT on 1December 2020 that uned the DG DEVCO 2019 Action Plan a task was implemented responding to the Court's recommendation from 2018 and that the RER manual and methodology was adapted mainly as concerns the guidance on reliance on

prior control work and on the procedures relating to procurement and a new way to deal with estimations; welcomes that the changes are fully applied to the 2020 RER study;

Or. en

Amendment 678

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 164 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

164 b. Notes, furthermore, that the Commission is currently working on implementation of additional Court's recommendation for another adaptation of RER manual and methodology made in its 2019 Annual EDF Report and encourages the Commission to finalise the implementation of this recommendation by the end of 2021;

Or. en

Amendment 679

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 164 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

164 a. Welcomes that the Court assessed the results of EU programmes; notes that appropriate risk analyzes and recommendations for action to EU policymakers are an important basis for political decision-making; however, is concerned that the large number of output indicators is increasingly expressing preference for certain partisan positions; calls on the Court to focus the

performance assessments on achieving European added value and an efficient use of EU tax money;

Or. en

Amendment 680
Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 164 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

164 b. Is concerned that the Commission uses too many input and output indicators in its performance analysis that are expressing preference for certain partisan positions; asks the Commission to streamline performance reporting by reducing the number of relevant objectives and meaningful indicators it uses for its various performance reports, and focus on those fewer and more appropriate common set of outcome and impact indicators which best measure the results achieved in terms of efficiency, economy and effectiveness of the Union spending;

Or. en

Amendment 681
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Subheading 32 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Use of trust funds in development policy

Or. en

Amendment 682
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 164 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

164 a. reiterates that pooling resources from the EDF, the Union budget and other donors in trust funds should not have as consequence that money flagged for the development and cooperation policy do not reach their normal beneficiaries;

Or. en

Amendment 683
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 164 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

164 b. reminds that development policy is meant to eradicate poverty and reduce inequalities, and should not be conditional to migration control but rather on respect of human rights;

Or. en

Amendment 684
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 164 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

164 c. reiterates its concerns that the increase use of financial instrument to deliver EU policies in third countries undermine the level of accountability and

transparency of Union action; insists that the Commission ensure that the delivery of external aid is subject to the rule of law and respect for human rights in recipient countries^{39a};

^{39a} Para 32 of the European Parliament resolution of 14 May 2020 with observations forming an integral part of the decisions on discharge in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2018, Section III – Commission and executive agencies (2019/2055(DEC))

Or. en

Amendment 685
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 164 d (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

164 d. Expresses its deep concern about the misuse of development funds for actions that result in the violation of human rights in border management; deplores the reported human rights violations linked to the EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa (EUTF) in Libya, Ethiopia, Eritrea and Niger; calls for the creation of strong mechanisms to monitor the human rights impacts of the EUTF, as well as an accountability system to prevent and deal with breaches of international law;; reiterates the need for a thorough investigation into the alleged human rights abuses, including those at EU borders; deplores the fact that the Commission's report on the extension of the EUTF did not envisage any improvement in this field, and request that guarantees on the respect of fundamental human rights should be provided when dealing with the extension of EUTF^{40a};

^{40a} DEVE opinion on “human rights protection and the EU external migration policy”, paragraph 13

Or. en

Amendment 686
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 164 e (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

164 e. Notes that a complaint has been filed in 2019 with the European Court of Auditors regarding EU funding in Libya, requesting the suspension of the programme supporting the Libyan coast guards in light of its violation of EU financing law regulations and international regulations on human rights^{41a}; calls on the Commission and Member States, in view of the serious human rights violations against refugees, asylum seekers and migrants in Libya, including those intercepted at sea, to urgently review all cooperation activities with the Libyan coast guard and to suspend them until clear guarantees of human rights compliance are in place;

^{41a} Global Legal Action Network (GLAN), ‘EU financial complicity in Libyan migrant abuses’.

Or. en

Amendment 687
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 164 f (new)

164 f. *Deplores the lack of transparency of the EUTF and the fact that Parliament is not involved in its scrutiny; insists that partner countries and civil society organisations should be more closely involved; urges the Commission to present its final comprehensive review on the implementation of the EUTF to ensure that it falls in line with the EU's development, human rights and humanitarian objectives; regrets that the extension of the EUTF was requested by the Commission in the absence of such a review and that there is therefore no evidence to show whether these objectives have been properly assessed and achieved; reiterates its call for the full involvement of the European Parliament in the supervision and governance of EU Trust Funds; considers it essential that the activities of the operational committees are also monitored, and asks the Commission to ensure the presence of a representative of the European Parliament at these committees and to transmit detailed information on the decisions taken^{42a};*

^{42a} *DEVE opinion on “human rights protection and the EU external migration policy”, paragraph 14*

Or. en

Amendment 688
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 168

Motion for a resolution

168. *Notes* that the indicators in the Commission's high-level performance reports revealed a generally positive trend

Amendment

168. *Welcomes* that the indicators in the Commission's high-level performance reports revealed a generally positive trend

in terms of poverty reduction, gender equality in education, number of agreements with neighbouring countries and human development; regrets that the indicators showed a worsening trend in terms of consolidation of democracy, rule of law and political stability;

in terms of poverty reduction, gender equality in education, number of agreements with neighbouring countries and human development; regrets that the indicators showed a worsening trend in terms of consolidation of democracy, rule of law and political stability;

Or. en

Amendment 689
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 169 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

169 a. Takes note of the Court evaluation of knowledge gaps arising from the time lag between funding being allocated and results becoming apparent for both the ENI and DCI; points out that as a result, many results are likely to materialise only after 2020; reminds that the Commission is required to produce a final evaluation report on the 2014-2020 period for all external actions instruments, which is expected in 2022; invite the Commission to respect this deadline and to take into consideration all comments produced by the Court in order to address the weaknesses in the performance reporting;

Or. en

Amendment 690
Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 169 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

169 a. welcomes the Court's finding

about a generally positive trend in terms of poverty reduction, gender equality in education, number of agreements with neighbouring countries, expresses however concern about the worsening trend in terms of consolidation of democracy, rule of law and political stability

Or. en

Amendment 691

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 170 – indent 1 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *Requests the Commission to develop quickly guidance and strong criteria to identify NGOs in its accounting system and to verify the self-declared data submitted by the applicants;*

Or. en

Amendment 692

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 170 – indent 1 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *Calls on the Commission to propose a harmonized definition of NGOs and a specific control on the funds. Calls on the Commission to receive each year the list of the 50 largest beneficiaries;*

Or. en

Amendment 693

Tsvetelina Penkova, Claudiu Manda, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 170 – indent 4

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *further improve by the end of 2021 the methodology and manual used for the residual error rate study to address the issues the Court has identified in its report, in order to make the error rate reported in the study more reliable;* *deleted*

Or. en

Amendment 694

David Lega

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 170 – indent 5 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *thoroughly verify the use of Union funds by third entities, their affiliates and/or natural persons to ensure that no funds are allocated or linked to any cause or form of terrorism and/or religious and political radicalisation; and to ensure that these Union funds are proactively recovered, and recipients involved are excluded from future Union funding.*

Or. en

Amendment 695

Maria Grapini

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 170 – indent 5 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *verify in detail the use of Union*

funding by third parties to ensure that it is not allocated or related to any terrorist causes or manifestations; ensure that these Union funds are proactively recovered and that the recipients thereof are excluded from future EU funding;

Or. ro

Amendment 696
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 170 – indent 5 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *ensure that no Union funds support forced child labour*

Or. en

Amendment 697
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 170 – indent 5 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *ensure that Union funds are not used for purposes different from the assigned areas;*

Or. en

Amendment 698
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 170 – indent 5 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *withhold or review their cooperation with third countries, including suspending specific funding and projects, which endanger the human rights of those affected, including where third countries do not fully respect the fundamental rights stemming both from the UN Convention of 1951 Relating to the Status of Refugees and the European Convention on Human Rights, have not ratified these conventions, or fail to comply with the SOLAS and SAR Conventions;*

Or. en

Amendment 699
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 170 – indent 5 d (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *provide an enhanced Parliament scrutiny when developing new partnership agreements with third countries, which should always be based on the principles of solidarity, shared responsibility, respect for human rights, the rule of law and international humanitarian law;*

Or. en

Amendment 700
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 170 – indent 5 e (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *provide detailed information on the decisions taken in the Operational Committees and ensure that the Parliament is represented at its meetings;*

Amendment 701

Arnaud Danjean, Isabel García Muñoz

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 170 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

170 a. reiterates its request to the Commission to execute fully and without any further delay the judgement of the Court of Justice (31/1/2019) regarding International Management Group (IMG); urges the Commission to consider again IMG as a suitable contractor for projects in crisis situation countries, where this organisation has proven its efficiency in managing reconstruction and assistance programs financed by European entities and Member States over more than 20 years.

Or. en

Amendment 702

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 170 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

170 a. Highlights the importance of increasing visibility, transparency, effectiveness, complementarity and accountability of the EU external financing instruments in light of their current restructuring; points to the fact that the ENI's performance has been more successful in the EU's Eastern neighbourhood, and in this light, calls for increased efforts be directed towards the EU's Southern neighbourhood in order to

address the challenges it faces

Or. en

Amendment 703

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 170 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

170 a. Encourages the Commission to continue building on the principles of its open source strategy^{1a} and the ISA2 Programme^{2a} in order to prevent vendor lock-in, retain control over its own technical infrastructure contribute to stronger safeguards for user's privacy and data protection and increase security and transparency for the public; asks the Commission to give preference to open source solutions in procurement and development, with the aim of promoting the sharing and re-use of software solutions, making procurement more sustainable and long-lived, and abiding by the 'public money, public code' principle;

^{1a}

https://ec.europa.eu/info/departments/informatics/open-source-software-strategy_en

^{2a} **https://ec.europa.eu/isa2/isa2_en**

Or. en

Amendment 704

Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 171

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

171. Notes that payments for *deleted*
‘Administration’ amounted to EUR 10,4
billion in 2019 and were disbursed
through Union institutions as follows:

- ‘Commission’, up to 57,9% of the heading budget or EUR 6,1 billion;
- ‘European Parliament’, up to 19,6% of the heading budget or EUR 2,0 billion;
- ‘EEAS’, up to 9,2% of the heading budget or EUR 1,0 billion;
- ‘Council’, up to 5,4% of the heading budget or EUR 0,6 billion;
- ‘Court of Justice’, up to 4,0 % of the heading budget or EUR 0,4 billion;
- ‘Court’, up to 1,4% of the heading budget or EUR 0,1 billion;
- ‘EESC’, up to 1,3% of the heading budget or EUR 0,1 billion;
- ‘Others’, up to 1,2% of the heading budget or EUR 0,1 billion;

Or. en

Amendment 705
Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 171

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

171. Notes that payments for *deleted*
‘Administration’ amounted to EUR 10,4
billion in 2019 and were disbursed
through Union institutions as follows:

- ‘Commission’, up to 57,9% of the heading budget or EUR 6,1 billion;
- ‘European Parliament’, up to 19,6% of the heading budget or EUR 2,0 billion;
- ‘EEAS’, up to 9,2% of the heading budget or EUR 1,0 billion;

- ‘Council’, up to 5,4% of the heading budget or EUR 0,6 billion;
- ‘Court of Justice’, up to 4,0 % of the heading budget or EUR 0,4 billion;
- ‘Court’, up to 1,4% of the heading budget or EUR 0,1 billion;
- ‘EESC’, up to 1,3% of the heading budget or EUR 0,1 billion;
- ‘Others’, up to 1,2% of the heading budget or EUR 0,1 billion;

Or. en

Amendment 706

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 171 – indent 2

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- ‘European Parliament’, up to 19,6% of the heading budget or EUR 2,0 billion; *deleted*

Or. en

Amendment 707

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 171 – indent 3

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- ‘EEAS’, up to 9,2% of the heading budget or EUR 1,0 billion; *deleted*

Or. en

Amendment 708

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 171 – indent 4

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- **‘Council’, up to 5,4% of the heading budget or EUR 0,6 billion;** *deleted*

Or. en

Amendment 709

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 171 – indent 5

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- **‘Court of Justice’, up to 4,0 % of the heading budget or EUR 0,4 billion;** *deleted*

Or. en

Amendment 710

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 171 – indent 6

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- **‘Court’, up to 1,4% of the heading budget or EUR 0,1 billion;** *deleted*

Or. en

Amendment 711

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu,

Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 171 – indent 7

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- **‘EESC’, up to 1,3% of the heading budget or EUR 0,1 billion;** **deleted**

Or. en

Amendment 712

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 171 – indent 8

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- **‘Others’, up to 1,2% of the heading budget or EUR 0,1 billion;** **deleted**

Or. en

Amendment 713

Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 171 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

171 a. Notes that payments for ‘Administration’ amounted to EUR 10,4 billion in 2019 (6,5% of the MFF), of which the budget of the Commission represents 57,9% or EUR 6,1 billion;

Or. en

Amendment 714

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 172

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

172. Notes that administrative expenditure comprises expenditure on human resources, accounting for about 60 % of the total, and on buildings, equipment, energy, communications and information technology, which is considered as a spending of a low-risk;

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 715

Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 172

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

172. Notes that administrative expenditure comprises expenditure on human resources, accounting for about 60 % of the total, and on buildings, equipment, energy, communications and information technology, which is considered as ***a spending of*** a low-risk;

172. Notes that administrative expenditure comprises expenditure on human resources, accounting for about 60 % of the total, and on buildings, equipment, energy, communications and information technology, which is considered ***by the Court*** as a low-risk ***spending***;

Or. en

Amendment 716

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution
Subheading 36

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Findings of the PWC and of the Court

deleted

Amendment 717

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution

Subheading 36

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Findings of the PWC and of the Court

deleted

Amendment 718

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 173

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

173. Notes the results of transaction testing: of 45 transactions examined representing each institution and body, 3 (6,7 %) contained quantifiable errors, led to an estimated level of error below the materiality threshold;

deleted

Amendment 719

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 173

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

173. Notes the results of transaction testing: of 45 transactions examined representing each institution and body, 3 (6,7 %) contained quantifiable errors, led to an estimated level of error below the

deleted

materiality threshold;

Or. en

Amendment 720

Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 173

Motion for a resolution

173. Notes the results of transaction testing: of 45 transactions examined ***representing*** each institution and body, 3 (6,7 %) contained quantifiable errors, led to an estimated level of error below the materiality threshold;

Amendment

173. Notes the results of transaction testing: of ***the only*** 45 transactions examined, ***designed to represent the full range of spending under this MFF heading by selecting transactions from*** each institution and body, 3 (6,7 %) contained quantifiable errors, led to an estimated level of error below the materiality threshold;

Or. en

Amendment 721

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 174

Motion for a resolution

174. Notes that no specific issue was identified concerning the Council, the Court of Justice, the Court of Auditors, the European Economic and Social Committee, the European Committee of the Regions, the European Ombudsman, the EDPS or the European External Action Service (EEAS);

Amendment

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 722

Isabel García Muñoz, Tsvetelina Penkova, Sándor Rónai, Ramona Strugariu, Jeroen Lenaers

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 174**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

174. Notes that no specific issue was identified concerning the Council, the Court of Justice, the Court of Auditors, the European Economic and Social Committee, the European Committee of the Regions, the European Ombudsman, the EDPS or the European External Action Service (EEAS); **deleted**

Or. en

**Amendment 723
Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group**

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 174**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

174. Notes that no specific issue was identified concerning the Council, the Court of Justice, the Court of Auditors, the European Economic and Social Committee, the European Committee of the Regions, the European Ombudsman, the EDPS or the European External Action Service (EEAS); **deleted**

Or. en

**Amendment 724
Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 174**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

174. Notes that no specific issue was identified concerning the Council, the Court of Justice, the Court of Auditors, the European Economic and Social Committee, the European Committee of the Regions, the European Ombudsman, the EDPS or the European External Action Service (EEAS); **deleted**

Or. en

Amendment 725

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 174

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

174. Notes that no specific issue was identified concerning the Council, the Court of Justice, the Court of Auditors, the European Economic and Social Committee, the European Committee of the Regions, the European Ombudsman, the EDPS or the European External Action Service (EEAS); **deleted**

Or. en

Amendment 726

Isabel García Muñoz, Tsvetelina Penkova, Sándor Rónai, Ramona Strugariu, Jeroen Lenaers

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 175

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

175. Notes that on European Parliament level the Court detected errors in one payment to a European political party (non-compliance with the **deleted**

expenditure eligibility rules: no procurement procedure, no written contractual documents and no supporting evidence for costs actually incurred);

Or. en

Amendment 727
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 175

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

175. Notes that on European Parliament level the Court detected errors in one payment to a European political party (non-compliance with the expenditure eligibility rules: no procurement procedure, no written contractual documents and no supporting evidence for costs actually incurred); **deleted**

Or. en

Amendment 728
Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 175

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

175. Notes that on European Parliament level the Court detected errors in one payment to a European political party (non-compliance with the expenditure eligibility rules: no procurement procedure, no written contractual documents and no supporting evidence for costs actually incurred); **deleted**

Or. en

Amendment 729

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 175

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

175. Notes that on European Parliament level the Court detected errors in one payment to a European political party (non-compliance with the expenditure eligibility rules: no procurement procedure, no written contractual documents and no supporting evidence for costs actually incurred); *deleted*

Or. en

Amendment 730

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 175

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

175. Notes that on European Parliament level the Court detected errors in one payment to a European political party (non-compliance with the expenditure eligibility rules: no procurement procedure, no written contractual documents and no supporting evidence for costs actually incurred); *deleted*

Or. en

Amendment 731

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 176

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

176. Notes that concerning the Commission, several errors relating to staff costs and the PMO's management of family allowances were found;

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 732

Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 176

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

176. Notes that concerning the Commission, **several** errors relating to staff costs and the PMO's management of family allowances **were** found;

176. Notes that concerning the Commission, **the Court found fewer** errors relating to staff costs and the PMO's management of family allowances **than in previous years; welcomes that the PMO has already corrected the errors found this year; acknowledges the Commission's clarification that the errors only concerns the national allowances while the ones paid directly by the Commission are correct;**

Or. en

Amendment 733

Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 176 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

176 a. Notes that the Court also examines the regularity of the information in the annual activity reports of the Commission, including those of its directorates-general and offices primarily responsible for administrative expenditure; welcomes that the annual

activity reports reviewed did not identify material levels of error;

Or. en

Amendment 734
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 176 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

176 a. insists on the Commission to implement a more transparent appointment procedure for all positions especially the management related ones; calls on the Commission to clarify previous appointment procedure that lack of transparency and accountability;

Or. en

Amendment 735
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 176 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

176 b. Highlight the importance of an effective and valid Transparency Register; reiterates its call on the Commission to pay more attention to the validation and sample checks of entities of the Transparency Register;

Or. en

Amendment 736
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 176 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

176 c. Takes notes that in September 2019, the Commission carried out the second review of its internal Guidelines in relation to the provisions on whistle-blowers, and requests a more proactive approach in term of protection of whistle-blowers; considers particularly relevant the need to reinforce the cooperation between OLAF and the Appointing Authority responsible for adopting protective measures in those cases where applicable; also considers particularly important the recommendations to liaise with EPPO to ensure an efficient collaboration and to exchange best practices in the field of reporting perceived illegal activities

Or. en

Amendment 737

Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 176 d (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

176 d. In term of protection of whistle-blowers, esteems that a more uniform regulation among all Institutions, based on best practices and on higher standards would represent a much needed improvement;

Or. en

Amendment 738

Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 176 e (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

176 e. Reiterates its call on the Commission to make the Commission special advisers status more transparent with a clear definition of their tasks and missions;

Or. en

Amendment 739
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 176 f (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

176 f. concerning the College decision of 30 October 2019 to enable former Commissions Presidents to carry out representational functions after the end of their mandate, takes note of the appointment of former President Jean Claude Juncker as Special Advisors, and regrets that this function, despite non remunerated, will engage costs in particular for mission, which are of difficult understanding for the public opinion; request the commission to detail the financial implication of such a decision to the Parliament, in order to take this into consideration for future discharge;

Or. en

Amendment 740
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 176 g (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

176 g. Invites the Commission to pay great attention when relating with former Member of the Commission and to assess carefully the potential risk when doing so;

Or. en

**Amendment 741
Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 176 h (new)**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

176 h. Reiterates its call on the Commission to enforce the existing legally binding rules of the code of conduct regarding revolving doors both for the Commission and its agencies;

Or. en

**Amendment 742
Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 176 i (new)**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

176 i. Takes note of the European Court of auditors conclusions and recommendations of its Special Report on "The ethical frameworks of the audited EU institutions:scope for improvement";regrets that room for improvements is still present for enforcing the ethical frameworks;in particular regrets that weaknesses were found on different issues, namely:

- procedures for verifying declarations and guidance for staff to avoid conflict of interests not sufficiently formalised;clear and extensive guidance about ethical requirements needs to be made

available; the same apply to guidance on CoIs arising from staff members' financial interests, their post-employment activities, or their spouse or partner's professional activity.

- Limited scrutiny of Members' declarations; as for the Member of the Commission, the Court regrets the lack of standard written procedures for checking the accuracy, reliability or completeness of the information submitted in their declarations, creating a risk of obligations being interpreted inconsistently, so that the institution is less likely to identify inaccuracies and other issues before they attract public attention, potentially jeopardising public trust;

- Incomplete and unclear policies on gifts and entertainment, with for the Commission the lack of definition of gifts and hospitality applicable to Members;

Or. en

Amendment 743
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 176 j (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

176 j. Strongly supports the Court recommendation to all institutions to work together to harmonise their ethical frameworks and to step up their efforts to share good practice

Or. en

Amendment 744
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 176 k (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

176 k. Calls on the Commission to improve staff awareness and perception of the ethical framework and culture;; in particular call on the Commission to ensure that training on ethics contains practical guidance based on real-life examples, and to improve the communication on ethics matters with staff; raises the attention on the needs to make sure that staff members know how to report any issues related to unethical behaviour, as well as to increase their sense of security;

Or. en

**Amendment 745
Luke Ming Flanagan**

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 176 l (new)**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

176 l. Invites the Commission to take appropriate measures to implement all Court's recommendations and to report to the Parliament on the developments;

Or. en

**Amendment 746
Markus Pieper**

**Motion for a resolution
Subheading 37**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

**European Economic and Social
Committee**

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 747

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Subheading 37

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

***European Economic and Social
Committee***

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 748

Isabel García Muñoz, Tsvetelina Penkova, Sándor Rónai, Ramona Strugariu, Jeroen Lenaers

Motion for a resolution

Subheading 37

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

***European Economic and Social
Committee***

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 749

Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution

Subheading 37

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

***European Economic and Social
Committee***

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 750

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution
Subheading 37

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

**European Economic and Social
Committee**

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 751
Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 177

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

**177. Points out that The European
Economic and Social Committee (EESC)
has not yet developed a sensitive functions
policy in line with its internal control
standards, specifically it has issued no
definition of sensitive posts or functions,
nor has it performed a risk analysis with a
view to adopting mitigating controls and,
ultimately, an internal mobility policy;**

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 752
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 177

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

**177. Points out that The European
Economic and Social Committee (EESC)
has not yet developed a sensitive functions
policy in line with its internal control**

deleted

standards, specifically it has issued no definition of sensitive posts or functions, nor has it performed a risk analysis with a view to adopting mitigating controls and, ultimately, an internal mobility policy;

Or. en

Amendment 753

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 177

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

177. Points out that The European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) has not yet developed a sensitive functions policy in line with its internal control standards, specifically it has issued no definition of sensitive posts or functions, nor has it performed a risk analysis with a view to adopting mitigating controls and, ultimately, an internal mobility policy; *deleted*

Or. en

Amendment 754

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 177

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

177. Points out that The European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) has not yet developed a sensitive functions policy in line with its internal control standards, specifically it has issued no definition of sensitive posts or functions, nor has it performed a risk analysis with a view to adopting mitigating controls and, ultimately, an internal mobility policy; *deleted*

Amendment 755

Isabel García Muñoz, Tsvetelina Penkova, Sándor Rónai, Ramona Strugariu, Jeroen Lenaers

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 177

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

177. Points out that The European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) has not yet developed a sensitive functions policy in line with its internal control standards, specifically it has issued no definition of sensitive posts or functions, nor has it performed a risk analysis with a view to adopting mitigating controls and, ultimately, an internal mobility policy; *deleted*

Amendment 756

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 178

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

178. Finds it worrying that the EESC has not carried out a comprehensive risk assessment since 2014, only one directorate has identified the risks to the achievement of its objectives, but without yet proposing mitigating controls that would reduce those risks to an acceptable level; *deleted*

Amendment 757

Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 178

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

178. Finds it worrying that the EESC **deleted**
has not carried out a comprehensive risk
assessment since 2014, only one
directorate has identified the risks to the
achievement of its objectives, but without
yet proposing mitigating controls that
would reduce those risks to an acceptable
level;

Or. en

Amendment 758

Isabel García Muñoz, Tsvetelina Penkova, Sándor Rónai, Ramona Strugariu, Jeroen Lenaers

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 178

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

178. Finds it worrying that the EESC **deleted**
has not carried out a comprehensive risk
assessment since 2014, only one
directorate has identified the risks to the
achievement of its objectives, but without
yet proposing mitigating controls that
would reduce those risks to an acceptable
level;

Or. en

Amendment 759

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 178

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

178. Finds it worrying that the EESC has not carried out a comprehensive risk assessment since 2014, only one directorate has identified the risks to the achievement of its objectives, but without yet proposing mitigating controls that would reduce those risks to an acceptable level;

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 760

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 178

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

178. Finds it worrying that the EESC has not carried out a comprehensive risk assessment since 2014, only one directorate has identified the risks to the achievement of its objectives, but without yet proposing mitigating controls that would reduce those risks to an acceptable level;

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 761

Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 179

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

179. Notes with satisfaction that the Court mentions that the quality of the Accounts has improved compared to previous years **but is deeply concerned that also for the financial year 2019, the Court concludes they are** unable to confirm that the Schools' financial

179. Notes with satisfaction that the Court mentions that the quality of the accounts has improved compared to previous years; **notes with concern that the Court is** unable to confirm that the Schools' financial management in 2019 was compliant with the Financial

management in 2019 was compliant with the Financial Regulation of the European Schools and the Staff Regulations;

Regulation of the European Schools and the Staff Regulations *due to weaknesses revealed in the internal control systems of the Central Office and of the two Schools selected; urges the European Schools to swiftly follow up on the recommendations of the Court concerning the specific weakness founded in accounting, procurement and recruitment;*

Or. en

Amendment 762

Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 180

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

180. Urges the European Schools to swiftly follow up on the recommendations from the Court concerning accounting, procurement and recruitment;

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 763

Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 181

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

181. Acknowledges profound inequalities between two types of European schools such as: ‘the type I’ European Schools reserved as a priority for the children of officials of the European institutions and the ‘accredited European Schools’ open to all pupils irrespective of their parents’ activity;

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 764

Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 182

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

182. Recognises as a core problem the fact that the Central Office of the European Schools and the European School System are financially dependent on DG Budget and DG Human Resources (while this is justified in relation to officials of the European Institutions who have priority access to the Type I schools, this dependence on DG Budget and DG Human Resources is not justified for all other pupils whose families have no connection with the Institutions); *deleted*

Or. en

Amendment 765

Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Subheading 39

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Recommendations *deleted*

Or. en

Amendment 766

Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 183

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

183. Calls on Commission to: *deleted*

- *harmonise its support for Category I pupils, i.e. children of officials, who choose to enrol in an accredited European School (at present, some civil servant families, depending on the town or country they live in, do not receive funding to enrol their children in accredited schools which do, however, give access to the same baccalaureate);*
- *resolve the inequality of funding between Category I pupils enrolled in the accredited Schools which results from the situation where they are sometimes substituted for the Type I European Schools and sometimes placed latter in unequal and unjustified competition depending on the school market in which they operate;*
- *intervene to resolve the important problems currently raised by the so-called "Cost Neutrality" policy (cf. document 2018-10-D-63-en-5), which stipulates that accredited schools should not weigh financially on the traditional European School system, but should on the contrary contribute to the costs generated by the system in place²⁶ ;*

²⁶ *This provision poses problems at several levels. Firstly, the Central Office as well as the entire budget devoted by the Commission to the European Schools is a public service which has already been paid for by the Member States and taxpayers through them. Secondly, as the overall functioning of the accredited Schools is self-financed and not experiencing any intervention by the Commission, the claim that they represent an additional cost for which they should be accountable seems to be counterintuitive. Allowing the opening of the European Baccalaureate system and the schooling of children of European officials at a much lower cost than the type I European Schools, their development should instead be integrated into the Commission budget and under no*

*circumstances be subject to taxation
which would hamper their development
and the substantial savings they generate
for the benefit of the Union.*

Or. en

Amendment 767

Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Subheading 39 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Human Resources

Or. en

Amendment 768

Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 183 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

183 a. Takes note that the Commission is investing in data mining of its IT medical system to overcome the absence of data on burnout cases; strongly encourages the Commission to prevent, identify and manage burnout cases in the larger context of staffing, workload and staff well-being in its Human Resources (HR) strategy; recalls, in this regard, the negative impact of the 2014 reform package on a number of crucial aspects of HR within the Union institutions and thus on their attractiveness as employer; reiterates the serious consequences that any budgetary cut in administration or staff reduction may have in the future of the European civil service and the implementation of the Union's policies;

Amendment 769

Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 183 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

183 b. Is concerned that any temporary measure has been designed by the Commission to mitigate the growing problem of the purchase power disparity suffered by the European civil servants posted to Luxembourg; points out, as a relevant example, that 16 out of 200 suitable candidates selected by the EPPO have declined the job offer on account of the salary not being high enough to live in Luxembourg; emphasises that expects concrete proposals in the report on the salary method due by 31 March 2022;

Or. en

Amendment 770

Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 183 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

183 c. Supports the Commission's intention to update the approach set out in its Communication of 2019 "The Workplace of the Future in the European Commission" in the light of the COVID-19 crisis; expects the Commission to take into account on an equal footing the efficient use of office spaces and the health and well-being of the staff; reiterates that staff representatives shall always be involved in substantial changes of the work arrangements and spaces;

Amendment 771

Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 183 d (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

183 d. Welcomes that the Commission adopted an action plan for equality and diversity in 2018 and its implementation in 2019; welcomes that specific actions were added in response to the staff survey; calls on the Commission to follow the same path with more specific measures with regard to the people awarded with internships in the Commission;

Or. en

Amendment 772

Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 183 e (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

183 e. Agrees with the Commission's statement that "different cultural, social and professional expectations of men and women continue to exist with regard to the balance between paid work and unpaid (care) work"; notes with appreciation the Commission's efforts to raise awareness on the measures that exist to enable a work-life balance such as courses for parents and the publication of positive examples in the Commission's intracomm;

Or. en

Amendment 773

Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 183 f (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

183 f. Notes with appreciation that the Commission (2014-2019) met the target of 40 % of women in management functions by the end of its mandate in 2019; reminds the Commission (2019-2024) that in 2019 its President committed to reach gender equality at all levels of management by the end of the current mandate and reiterated this commitment in her mission letter to Commissioner for Budget and Administration;

Or. en

Amendment 774

Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 183 g (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

183 g. Takes note of the new guidelines for the implementation of aid for persons with a disability drafted in 2019 to financially assist staff and their dependant for non-medical costs linked to their independence, social integration and physical, mental, social and vocational ability; notes that the guidelines came into force in May 2020;

Or. en

Amendment 775

Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 183 h (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

183 h. Notes that in 2019 the number of cases for social-financial support increased by 28% compared to 2018; notes with appreciation that the disability funds used increased by 50% in comparison with 2018 (from approximately EUR 2 to 3 million);

Or. en

Amendment 776

Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 183 i (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

183 i. Takes due note of the Court's observations and recommendations regarding the European Personnel Selection Office^{183a}; welcomes that the selection process is broadly effective for large-scale competitions but expresses its concern that the selection process is not adapted to small-scale, targeted competitions, which are those most suited to the current recruitment needs of the EU institutions; calls on the Commission to timely report on the implementation of those recommendations by the EPSO;

^{183a} European Court of Auditors' Special Report 13/2020 "The European Personnel Selection Office: Time to adapt the selection process to changing recruitment needs".

Or. en

Amendment 777

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution
Subheading 40

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

General observations

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 778

Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution
Subheading 40

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

General observations

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 779

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 184

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

184. Takes into account that the adoption in 2014 of the revised Staff Regulations was accompanied by a commitment by the institutions and bodies gradually to reduce the number of posts (officials and temporary staff) in their establishment plans by 5 % before 2018 compared with the situation in 2012;

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 780

Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 184

Motion for a resolution

184. ***Takes into account*** that the adoption in 2014 of the revised Staff Regulations was accompanied by a commitment by the institutions and bodies gradually to reduce the number of posts (officials and temporary staff) in their establishment plans by **5 %** before 2018 compared with the situation in 2012;

Amendment

184. ***Acknowledges the Court's observation*** that the adoption in 2014 of the revised Staff Regulations was accompanied by a commitment by the institutions and bodies gradually to reduce the number of posts (officials and temporary staff) in their establishment plans by **5%** before 2018 compared with the situation in 2012;

Or. en

Amendment 781

Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 184 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

184 a. Takes note that the 2014 reform of the Staff Regulations brought savings of 4,2 billions on the 2014–2020 MFF, which represents 0,4% of the overall MFF; recalls that the 2014 reform generated unquestionable negative effects on the staff, which was confirmed by the Court^{184a} in 2019, and regrets that it is nearly impossible to know their financial cost in order to have a realistic image of the savings; notes the several policies and actions designed by the Commission to help mitigate the negative effects and expects that the lessons learned will be reflected on the Commission's new HR Strategy to be adopted in 2021;

184a European Court of Auditors' Special report no 15/2019: Implementation of the 2014 staff reform package at the Commission - Big savings but not without

consequences for staff.

Or. en

Amendment 782

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 185

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

185. Points out that the institutions and bodies had reduced their establishment plans by 1 409 posts (3 %) and at the same time gradually increased the employment of contract staff. Over the period, the proportion of contract staff in total workforce forecasts rose from 17 % to 22 %;

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 783

Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 185

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

185. Points out that the institutions and bodies had reduced their establishment plans by 1 409 posts (3 %) and at the same time gradually increased the employment of contract staff. **Over the period,** the proportion of contract staff in total workforce forecasts rose from **17 % to 22 %;**

185. Notes that over the period from 2012 to 2018 the institutions and bodies, **excluding the European Ombudsman and the EDPS,** had reduced their establishment plans by 1 409 posts (3%) and at the same time gradually increased the employment of contract staff; **notes, in this regard, that** the proportion of contract staff in total workforce forecasts rose from **17% to 22%;**

Or. en

Amendment 784
Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 185

Motion for a resolution

185. Points out that the institutions and bodies had reduced their establishment plans by 1 409 posts (3 %) and at the same time gradually increased the employment of contract staff. Over the period, the proportion of contract staff in total workforce forecasts rose from 17 % to 22 %;

Amendment

185. Points out that the institutions and bodies had reduced their establishment plans by 1 409 posts (3 %) and at the same time gradually increased the employment of contract staff. Over the period, the proportion of contract staff in total workforce forecasts rose from 17 % to 22 %; ***%; expresses its concern as regards the possible negative effects of replacing officials with contract agents such as the necessary transfer of knowledge and also the perspective and job security of the contract agents;***

Or. en

Amendment 785
Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 186

Motion for a resolution

186. Underlines that the increase in the headcount of contract staff at year-end differs significantly from one institution, body or executive agency to another, which reflects differences in the size of the entities, but also the impact on staffing levels of new tasks stemming from rapidly evolving priorities, such as:
- additional work performed by the Joint Research Centre (JRC) on behalf of other Commission departments and third parties and the replacement of grant holders previously employed under national law by a large number of scientific and technical support officers

Amendment

deleted

recruited in FG IV;

- implementation of new programmes delegated by the Commission to the executive agencies which was neutral in budgetary terms and in terms of Commission staff transferred;

- internalisation of support services at the European Parliament (security staff and drivers employed in FG I);

- new responsibilities placed on the EEAS, notably in the areas of the common security and defence policy and the action plan against Disinformation (the EEAS also strengthened the physical and IT security in Union Delegations);

Or. en

Amendment 786

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 186

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

186. Underlines that the increase in the headcount of contract staff at year-end differs significantly from one institution, body or executive agency to another, which reflects differences in the size of the entities, but also the impact on staffing levels of new tasks stemming from rapidly evolving priorities, such as: *deleted*

- additional work performed by the Joint Research Centre (JRC) on behalf of other Commission departments and third parties and the replacement of grant holders previously employed under national law by a large number of scientific and technical support officers recruited in FG IV;

- implementation of new programmes delegated by the Commission to the executive agencies which was neutral in budgetary terms and in terms of

Commission staff transferred;

- internalisation of support services at the European Parliament (security staff and drivers employed in FG I);

- new responsibilities placed on the EEAS, notably in the areas of the common security and defence policy and the action plan against Disinformation (the EEAS also strengthened the physical and IT security in Union Delegations);

Or. en

Amendment 787

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 186 – indent 1

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- additional work performed by the Joint Research Centre (JRC) on behalf of other Commission departments and third parties and the replacement of grant holders previously employed under national law by a large number of scientific and technical support officers recruited in FG IV; *deleted*

Or. en

Amendment 788

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 186 – indent 2

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- implementation of new programmes delegated by the Commission to the executive agencies which was neutral in budgetary terms and in terms of Commission staff transferred; *deleted*

Amendment 789

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 186 – indent 3

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *internalisation of support services at the European Parliament (security staff and drivers employed in FG I);* *deleted*

Or. en

Amendment 790

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 186 – indent 4

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *new responsibilities placed on the EEAS, notably in the areas of the common security and defence policy and the action plan against Disinformation (the EEAS also strengthened the physical and IT security in Union Delegations);* *deleted*

Or. en

Amendment 791

Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 186 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

186 a. Points out that the increase of contract staff reflects the impact on staffing levels of new tasks stemming from rapidly evolving priorities, such as

the implementation of new programmes delegated by the Commission to the executive agencies which was neutral in budgetary terms and in terms of Commission staff transferred; notes the Court's observation that the increase in contract staff was also a response to special or urgent situations, such as the migration crisis;

Or. en

Amendment 792

Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 187

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

187. Is very critical in relation to the increase in contract staff as a result to special or urgent situations, such as the migration crisis;

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 793

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 187

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

187. Is very critical in relation to the increase in contract staff as a result to special or urgent situations, such as the migration crisis;

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 794

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 187

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

187. Is very critical in relation to the increase in contract staff as a result to special or urgent situations, such as the migration crisis;

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 795

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 187

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

187. Is very critical in relation to the increase in contract staff as a result to special or urgent situations, such as the migration crisis;

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 796

Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 187

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

187. Is very critical in relation to the increase in contract staff *as a result to special or urgent situations, such as the migration crisis;*

187. Is very critical in relation to the increase in contract staff; *with the related risk of losing knowledge and know-how when their contracts expire;*

Or. en

Amendment 797

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 187

Motion for a resolution

187. Is very critical in relation to the increase in contract staff as a result to special or urgent situations, ***such as the migration crisis***;

Amendment

187. Is very critical in relation to the increase in contract staff as a result to special or urgent situations;

Or. en

Amendment 798

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 188

Motion for a resolution

188. ***Notes with curiosity the high number of closing days in the Union-institutions, for which staff do not have to use their annual leave;***

deleted

Amendment

Or. en

Amendment 799

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 188

Motion for a resolution

188. ***Notes with curiosity the high number of closing days in the Union-institutions, for which staff do not have to use their annual leave;***

deleted

Amendment

Or. en

Amendment 800

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 188

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

188. Notes with curiosity the high number of closing days in the Union-institutions, for which staff do not have to use their annual leave; *deleted*

Or. en

Amendment 801

Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 188

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

188. Notes with curiosity the high number of closing days in the Union-institutions, for which staff do not have to use their annual leave; *deleted*

Or. en

Amendment 802

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 188

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

188. Notes with curiosity the high number of closing days in the Union-institutions, for which staff do not have to use their annual leave; *deleted*

Or. en

Amendment 803
Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 189

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

189. *Notes that, for some institutions, there was an increase in FG I contract staff as a result of the conversion of permanent and temporary posts for clerical/secretarial assistants into contract staff;*

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 804
Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 189

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

189. *Notes* that, for some institutions, there was an increase in FG I contract staff as a result of the conversion of permanent and temporary posts for clerical/secretarial assistants into contract staff;

189. *Regrets* that, for some institutions, there was an increase in FG I contract staff as a result of the conversion of permanent and temporary posts for clerical/secretarial assistants into contract staff;

Or. en

Amendment 805
Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 190

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

190. *Finds it highly problematic that at the end of 2018, the institutions, bodies and executive agencies employed 11 962*

deleted

contract staff, (representing an increase of 37 % since 2012); points out that most were employed by the European Commission, mainly in FG IV, the best paid function group, similarly, a majority of contract staff at the executive agencies were in FG III and FG IV (763 and 715 respectively);

Or. en

Amendment 806

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 190

Motion for a resolution

190. Finds it highly problematic that at the end of 2018, the institutions, bodies and executive agencies employed 11 962 contract staff, (representing an increase of 37 % since 2012); points out that most were employed by the European Commission, *mainly in FG IV, the best paid function group, similarly, a majority of contract staff at the executive agencies were in FG III and FG IV (763 and 715 respectively);*

Amendment

190. Finds it highly problematic that at the end of 2018, the institutions, bodies and executive agencies employed 11 962 contract staff, (representing an increase of 37 % since 2012); points out that most were employed by the European Commission,;

Or. en

Amendment 807

Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 190

Motion for a resolution

190. *Finds it highly problematic* that at the end of 2018, the institutions, bodies and executive agencies employed 11 962 contract staff, (representing an increase of

Amendment

190. *Takes note* that at the end of 2018, the institutions, bodies and executive agencies employed 11 962 contract staff, representing an increase of 37 % since

37 % since 2012); **points out** that most were employed by the **European Commission**, mainly in FG IV, the best paid function group, **similarly**, a majority of contract staff at the executive agencies were in FG III and FG IV (763 and 715 respectively);

2012; **notes** that most were employed by the Commission **and** mainly in FG IV, the best paid function group; **notes that** a majority of contract staff at the executive agencies were in FG III and FG IV (763 and 715 respectively);

Or. en

Amendment 808

Monika Hohlmeier, Tomáš Zdechovský, Niclas Herbst, José Manuel Fernandes

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 190

Motion for a resolution

190. **Finds it highly problematic** that at the end of 2018, the institutions, bodies and executive agencies employed 11 962 contract staff, (representing an increase of 37 % since 2012); **points out** that most were employed by the European Commission, mainly in FG IV, the best paid function group, **similarly**, a majority of contract staff at the executive agencies were in FG III and FG IV (763 and 715 respectively);

Amendment

190. **Notes** that at the end of 2018, the institutions, bodies and executive agencies employed 11 962 contract staff, (representing an increase of 37 % since 2012); **points out** that most were employed by the European Commission, mainly in FG IV, the best paid function group, **similarly**, a majority of contract staff at the executive agencies were in FG III and FG IV (763 and 715 respectively);

Or. en

Amendment 809

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 191

Motion for a resolution

191. **Takes note that, during the period under review, the salary bill for permanent and temporary staff employed by the institutions, bodies and executive agencies increased by 12 %, while total**

Amendment

deleted

payments to contract staff rose by 59 %, meanwhile the total salary bill for permanent and temporary staff and contract staff increased by 15 %, from EUR 4 116 million in 2012 to EUR 4 724 million in 2018;

Or. en

Amendment 810

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 191

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

191. Takes note that, during the period under review, the salary bill for permanent and temporary staff employed by the institutions, bodies and executive agencies increased by 12 %, while total payments to contract staff rose by 59 %, meanwhile the total salary bill for permanent and temporary staff and contract staff increased by 15 %, from EUR 4 116 million in 2012 to EUR 4 724 million in 2018; *deleted*

Or. en

Amendment 811

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Subheading 41 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Underlines the important effect of turnover within the staff of the agencies of the European Union, calls Commission to help them for the implementation of human and social policies to remedy it

Amendment 812

Ádám Kósa

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 191 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

191 a. Points out that a complex approach is needed in order to make the European institutions' home pages accessible to persons with all kind of disabilities as foreseen in Directive (EU) 2016/2102, including the availability of national sign languages; suggests that organisations representing disabled persons are involved in this process;

Or. en

Amendment 813

Ádám Kósa

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 191 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

191 b. Welcomes the Commission's efforts to build a more diverse and inclusive work environment and culture by taking actions in favour of people with disabilities, asks the Commission to assess the possibilities of further strengthening and integrating the principles of equal opportunities in recruitment, training, career development, working conditions as well as to raise staff awareness of these aspects; and on the possible reasonable improvements and modifications of the institutions' buildings (access, adequate office equipment) for people with reduced mobility or other disabilities;

Amendment 814

Ádám Kósa

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 191 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

191 c. Welcomes the European Personnel Selection Office's achievements and the its continually improvement in its practices in terms of reasonable accommodations for candidates with a disability and/or specific requirements, in 2019 EPSO developed a flyer, a braille flyer and an animated video to explain such adjustments to selection procedures that are offered to candidates with specific needs during selection procedures, which enabled 438 candidates with special needs to apply for the competitions and selections,

Or. en

Amendment 815

Ádám Kósa

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 191 d (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

191 d. Stresses the importance of DG Interpretation's efforts to facilitate interpretation into the 24 official EU languages and even the international sign language within the Commission and other EU institutions and bodies, encourages the Commission to help DG SCIC to further increase the availability and presence of the international sign language, to ensure access to information for persons with disabilities,

Or. en

Amendment 816

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution

Subheading 41

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Recommendations

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 817

Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution

Subheading 41

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Recommendations

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 818

Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Subheading 41

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Recommendations

General remarks

Or. en

Amendment 819

Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 191 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

191 a. Acknowledges that 2019 was a year of transition for the Commission, as it had to secure the transition from the Juncker Commission and the preparation for the arrival of the von der Leyen Commission, as well as launching its new priorities;

Or. en

Amendment 820

Lara Wolters

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 191 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

191 a. Expresses its concern over the very high approval rate of transfer requests into private sector positions for former Commission staff, as this increases the likelihood of the occurrence of conflicts of interest^{1a}; urges the Commission to review its policy in this regard;

^{1a}

**<https://euobserver.com/institutional/14984>
1**

Or. en

Amendment 821

Lara Wolters

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 191 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

191 b. Notes with concern the absence of a requirement for the vast majority of

Commission decision-makers to publish their meetings with interest representatives; also expresses concern on the possibility for Commission decision-makers to meet with lobbyists not registered in the Transparency Register; calls for full transparency regarding all meetings organised by the Commission with private actors or their representatives, such as consultancy organisations;

Or. en

Amendment 822

Lara Wolters

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 191 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

191 c. Expresses its concern on the Commission's decision to award a contract to BlackRock Investment Management to carry out a study on environmental, social and governance objectives; points to an inquiry by the European Ombudsman on the possibility for a conflict of interest^{1a}; calls therefore on the Commission to update its guidelines on public procurement procedures;

1a

<https://www.ombudsman.europa.eu/en/case/en/57060>

Or. en

Amendment 823

Lara Wolters, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 191 d (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

191 d. Urges the Commission to introduce sustainability reporting, including social and environmental aspects of procurement; believes that by incorporating responsible business standards in its procurement and purchasing policies, the Commission can safeguard the public interest and ensure the accountability of public spending;

Or. en

Amendment 824

Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 191 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

191 b. Welcomes the inter-institutional cyber cooperation for which the Committee of the Regions and the European Economic and Social Committee receive the assistance of the Computer Emergency Response Team for the EU institutions, bodies and agencies; notes that many of the digitalisation projects concern the digitalisation of human resources and financial processes, where the Committees uses the SYSPER and ABAC systems provided by the Commission; asks the Commission to examine the possibility of negotiating better conditions to enhance and make the process of application sharing financially attractive;

Or. en

Amendment 825

Olivier Chastel, Frédérique Ries, Ramona Strugariu, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Katalin Cseh

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 192 – indent 1 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *Reiterates previously expressed concern over problematic material in school textbooks used in the West Bank, Gaza Strip and East Jerusalem that has still not been removed and is concerned about the continued failure to remove material containing hate speech and violence in school textbooks. Insists that salaries of teachers and education sector civil servants that are financed from EU funds such as PEGASE should be used for drafting and teaching curricula which reflects UNESCO standards of peace, tolerance, coexistence, and non-violence, following the standards set by EU education ministers in Paris on 17 March 2015; and the European Parliament decision of 13 May 2020 on discharge in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2018, Section III – Commission and executive agencies (2019/2055(DEC))*

Or. en

Amendment 826
Luke Ming Flanagan, Marc Botenga

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 192 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

192 a. Is very concerned by the Commission decision to break the contract with the restaurant service provider, which led to the layoff of 400 workers; urgently asks the Commission to revise its decision and to explore any viable solution to protect the workers and avoid layoff, including the internalisation

of the catering staff in-house;

Or. en

Amendment 827

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 192**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

192. Calls on the European Economic and Social Committee to: *deleted*

- implement a policy for dealing with sensitive functions, drawing on a comprehensive risk assessment leading to the identification of mitigating controls which take into account the Committee's size and the nature of its work;

Or. en

Amendment 828

Markus Pieper

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 192**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

192. Calls on the European Economic and Social Committee to: *deleted*

- implement a policy for dealing with sensitive functions, drawing on a comprehensive risk assessment leading to the identification of mitigating controls which take into account the Committee's size and the nature of its work;

Or. en

Amendment 829
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 192

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

192. Calls on the European Economic and Social Committee to: *deleted*

- implement a policy for dealing with sensitive functions, drawing on a comprehensive risk assessment leading to the identification of mitigating controls which take into account the Committee's size and the nature of its work;

Or. en

Amendment 830
Viola Von Cramon-Taubadel
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 192

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

192. Calls on the European Economic and Social Committee to: *deleted*

- implement a policy for dealing with sensitive functions, drawing on a comprehensive risk assessment leading to the identification of mitigating controls which take into account the Committee's size and the nature of its work;

Or. en

Amendment 831
Isabel García Muñoz, Tsvetelina Penkova, Sándor Rónai, Ramona Strugariu, Jeroen Lenaers

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 192

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

192. Calls on the European Economic and Social Committee to:

deleted

- implement a policy for dealing with sensitive functions, drawing on a comprehensive risk assessment leading to the identification of mitigating controls which take into account the Committee's size and the nature of its work;

Or. en

Amendment 832

Olivier Chastel, Martina Dlabajová, Alin Mituța, Pierre Karleskind, Ramona Strugariu, Katalin Cseh, Gilles Boyer

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 192 – indent 1

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- implement a policy for dealing with sensitive functions, drawing on a comprehensive risk assessment leading to the identification of mitigating controls which take into account the Committee's size and the nature of its work;

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 833

Markus Pieper

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 192 – indent 1

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- implement a policy for dealing with sensitive functions, drawing on a comprehensive risk assessment leading to the identification of mitigating controls which take into account the Committee's size and the nature of its work;

deleted

Amendment 834
Luke Ming Flanagan

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 192 – indent 1

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *implement a policy for dealing with sensitive functions, drawing on a comprehensive risk assessment leading to the identification of mitigating controls which take into account the Committee's size and the nature of its work;* *deleted*

Or. en

Amendment 835
Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution
Subheading 41 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Ethical frameworks

Or. en

Amendment 836
Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 192 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

192 a. Echoes the Court's conclusion that "any unethical behaviour by staff and Members of EU institutions and bodies is unacceptable and, even if it is only alleged, attracts high levels of public interest and reduces trust in the EU.

Unethical behaviour is also linked to the risk of corruption and fraud”^{192a};

^{192a} European Court of Auditors’ Special Report 13/2019 “The ethical frameworks of the audited EU institutions: scope for improvement”.

Or. en

Amendment 837

Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 192 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

192 b. Welcomes that, to a large extent, the audited institutions have put in place for staff and Members adequate ethical frameworks with room for improvement; strongly supports the Court’s recommendations such as harmonising the ethical frameworks and improving staff awareness;

Or. en

Amendment 838

Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 192 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

192 c. Takes note of the second review of the Commission’s internal guidelines in relation to the provisions on Whistleblowing in the Staff Regulations; takes note with satisfaction the 6 recommendations contained in the 2019 review and calls on the Commission to report on the implementation to the

budgetary authority; welcomes the update of the whistleblowing page on MyIntracomm in May 2019 and the addition of a direct link to OLAF's whistleblowing procedure;

Or. en

Amendment 839

Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 192 d (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

192 d. Stresses the importance of reinforcing the Transparency Register and improving the quality of its data, in particular on the occasion of the Interinstitutional Agreement reached in December 2020; takes note of the quality checks performed by the Commission and the action of the Register Secretariat upon alerts received; calls on the Commission to improve the IT solution in order to perform stricter quality checks;

Or. en

Amendment 840

Isabel García Muñoz, Sándor Rónai, Tsvetelina Penkova

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 192 e (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

192 e. Takes notes of the European Ombudsman's conclusions and technical suggestions for improvement in her Decision of 28 February 2019 on how the Commission manages 'revolving doors' situations of its staff members; calls on the Commission to follow-up on both the Ombudsman's decision and the Court's

*relevant recommendations in its special
report on the ethical frameworks of the
EU institutions;*

Or. en