



2016/2170(DEC)

1.3.2017

OPINION

of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

for the Committee on Budgetary Control

on discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of Eurojust for the
financial year 2015
(2016/2170(DEC))

Rapporteur: Petr Ježek

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SUGGESTIONS

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

1. Welcomes the Court of Auditors' conclusions that the annual accounts of Eurojust fairly present its financial position on 31 December 2015 and that its transactions are legal and regular;
2. Encourages Eurojust to continue to treat terrorism, trafficking and smuggling, and cybercrime as priorities; welcomes the fact that Member States increasingly made use of coordination meetings and coordination centres and that they value the increased involvement of third countries in joint investigation teams; welcomes that the number of cases for which Member States requested Eurojust's assistance continues to grow and increased by 23 % compared to 2014; considers that its budget should be increased accordingly; notes the high rate of Eurojust's budget implementation of 99,86% for 2015 from its EUR 33,818 million annual budget;
3. Regrets that in its 2015 annual report, Eurojust stated that corruption is not a Union priority; notes that this statement was contradicted by the 90 corruption cases for which Eurojust expertise was requested in 2015 (twice as much as in 2014) according to the Eurojust annual report; acknowledges that Greece, Romania and Croatia were the most requesting Member States in corruption related cases;
4. Regrets that Eurojust faced budgetary availability issues due to known structural problems with its funding; regrets that the financial uncertainty with which Eurojust was confronted required the postponement of some of its on-going activities and the deferral of valuable technological developments; requests that Eurojust and the Commission solve these known structural problems and secure a proper level of funding for the coming years;
5. Notes that the high level of committed appropriations carried over for administrative expenditure (21 %); acknowledges that this was mainly the outcome of budgetary uncertainty; regrets that this triggered execution issues with specific contracts for security and hospitality services, ICT projects, hardware purchase and maintenance, as well as consultancy and project costs for the new premises; welcomes, despite the difficulties encountered, the commitment of Eurojust to avoid any unjustified carry-overs;
6. Regrets that the administration and the members of the independent Joint Supervisory Body did not publish their declarations of interest; calls for the immediate publication of these declarations; calls upon Eurojust to adopt a practical guide on institutional management and one on conflicts of interest, according to the guidelines published by the Commission on December 2013 and to establish clear rules against "revolving doors"; reminds Eurojust to adopt internal binding rules for the protection of whistle-blowers, in accordance with Article 22c of the Staff Regulations of Officials of the European Union, which entered into application on 1 January 2014.

RESULT OF FINAL VOTE IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

Date adopted	9.2.2017
Result of final vote	+: 38 -: 2 0: 3
Members present for the final vote	Heinz K. Becker, Michał Boni, Caterina Chinnici, Agustín Díaz de Mera García Consuegra, Tanja Fajon, Kinga Gál, Ana Gomes, Nathalie Griesbeck, Sylvie Guillaume, Jussi Halla-aho, Monika Hohlmeier, Eva Joly, Dietmar Köster, Barbara Kudrycka, Cécile Kashetu Kyenge, Marju Lauristin, Juan Fernando López Aguilar, Monica Macovei, Roberta Metsola, Péter Niedermüller, Soraya Post, Judith Sargentini, Birgit Sippel, Csaba Sógor, Sergei Stanishev, Helga Stevens, Traian Ungureanu, Bodil Valero, Marie-Christine Vergiat, Udo Voigt, Josef Weidenholzer, Kristina Winberg, Tomáš Zdechovský
Substitutes present for the final vote	Petr Ježek, Jeroen Lenaers, Nadine Morano, Morten Helveg Petersen, Emil Radev, Barbara Spinelli, Anders Primdahl Vistisen, Axel Voss
Substitutes under Rule 200(2) present for the final vote	Josu Juaristi Abaunz, Georg Mayer