

# 2012 discharge: Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC)

2013/2241(DEC) - 20/03/2014 - Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading

The Committee on Budgetary Control adopted the report by Petri SARVAMAA (EPP, FI) in which it recommended the European Parliament to **postpones its decision on granting the Administrative Manager of the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications discharge** in respect of the implementation of the Body's budget for the financial year 2012. In parallel, Members postponed the closure of the Body's accounts and made a number of recommendations in addition to those that appear in the [draft resolution on performance, financial management and control of EU agencies](#).

- **Legality and regularity of transactions:** Members regretted that the Body's accounting system has been validated in 2013. They called on the Body to take steps in order to avoid such situations in the future and to report on the steps taken by 1 September 2014. Members regretted that the committed appropriations carried over, amounting to EUR 61.5 million (10% of the total committed appropriations carried over), did not correspond to legal commitments and were thus **irregular**.
- **Budget and financial management:** Members noted with concern that budget monitoring efforts during the financial year 2012 resulted in a budget implementation rate of 63.4% and that the payment appropriations execution rate was 66.16%.
- **Commitments and carryovers:** Members also regretted that 45% of the committed appropriations carried over from 2011 were cancelled and that appropriations of EUR 545 000 were not used and had to be cancelled. They are worried that the level of carry-overs of committed appropriations to 2013 was high at EUR 611 000. They believed that this indicates difficulties in the planning and/or implementation of the Body's activities.
- **Recruitment procedures:** Members regretted that the recruitment procedures examined showed significant shortcomings affecting transparency, namely that questions for written tests and interviews were set after the applications had been examined by the selection board. Improvements should be made in this area.
- **Conflicts of interests:** Members regretted that the Body has provided limited information regarding conflicts of interests policy. They noted that personal conflicts of interests declarations are requested from the members of the Body's Management Committee and the Board of Regulators, as well as from their staff members. They called on the Body to inform the discharge authority of whether it plans to review its conflict of interests arrangements on the basis of the Commission's Guidelines on the Prevention and Management of Conflict of Interests in EU Decentralised Agencies.

Members also made a series of observations on transfers, procurement and recruitment procedures as well as comments on internal controls.