# 2015 discharge: European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA)

2016/2188(DEC) - 07/02/2017 - Supplementary non-legislative basic document

Having examined the revenue and expenditure accounts for the financial year 2015 and the balance sheet as at 31 December 2015 of the European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA), as well as the Court of Auditors' report on the annual accounts of the Authority for the financial year 2015, accompanied by the Authority's replies to the Court's observations, the Council recommended the European Parliament to give a discharge to the Executive Director of the Agency in respect of the implementation of the budget for the financial year 2015.

The Council welcomed the Court's opinion that, in all material respects, the Authority's annual accounts present fairly its financial position as at 31 December 2015 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended, in accordance with the provisions of the Authority's Financial Regulation, and that the underlying transactions for 2015 are legal and regular in all material respects.

Nevertheless, the following observation was made:

- **financial programming**: the Council noted that a high level of commitment appropriations was carried over to 2016. It encouraged the Authority to continue improving its financial programming and monitoring of the budget implementation, in order to reduce the level of commitments carried over to the following financial year to the minimum strictly necessary.