2015 discharge: Translation Centre for the Bodies of the European Union (CdT)

2016/2168(DEC) - 27/03/2017 - Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading

The Committee on Budgetary Control adopted the report by Inés AYALA SENDER (S&D, ES) on discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the Translation Centre for the Bodies of the European Union (CdT) for the financial year 2015.

The committee called on the European Parliament to grant the Director of the Centre discharge in respect of the implementation of the agency's budget for the financial year 2015.

Noting that the Court of Auditors stated that it had obtained reasonable assurance that the annual accounts of the Centre for the financial year 2015 were reliable and that the underlying transactions were legal and regular, Members called on Parliament to approve the closure of the Centre's accounts. They made, however, a number of recommendations that needed to be taken into account when the discharge is granted, in addition to the general recommendations that appear in the draft resolution on performance, financial management and control of EU agencies:

- **Centre's financial statements**: Members noted that the final budget of the Centre for the financial year 2015 was EUR 49 585 500, representing a decrease of 11.88 % compared with 2014.
- **Budget and financial management**: Members noted that the 2015 cash and short term deposits held by the Centre decreased from EUR 44 million at the end of 2014 to EUR 38.3 million at the end of 2015. They noted furthermore that the Centre's reserves decreased from EUR 40.4 million in 2014 to EUR 34 million in 2015, reflecting the 2015 reduction of prices.
- **Commitments and carry-overs**: Members noted with concern that, according to the Court's report, the Centre cancelled EUR 5.9 million (12 % of the total budget) of appropriations available at the end of 2015. These cancellations were related to the overestimation of the cost of external translators as well as to the fact that the fulfilment of the establishment plan did not reach the level foreseen in the budget. They noted however that the Centre monitored the evolution of external translation costs more closely and based its budget forecasts for 2016 onwards on up-to-date figures.

Members also made a series of observations regarding internal controls, the prevention and management of conflicts of interests and performances of the Centre.

In this regard, they noted that the Centre conducted its general client satisfaction survey in 2015 and approved an action plan based on the survey conclusions to be implemented over the 2016-2017 period which places a clear focus on **translation quality assurance**.