2015 discharge: Court of Auditors' special reports

2016/2208(DEC) - 27/04/2017 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 497 votes to 108, with 46 abstentions, a resolution on the Court of Auditors' special reports in the context of the 2015 Commission discharge.

In its resolution, Parliament recalled that the special reports of the Court of Auditors provide information on issues of concern related to the implementation of funds, which are thus useful for Parliament in exercising its role of discharge authority.

It noted that the Parliament's observations on the special reports of the Court of Auditors form an integral part of Parliament's abovementioned decision on the general discharge in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2015, Section III – Commission.

Parliament then returned to each of the reports in question and made a number of recommendations to improve the use of Community Funds.

To recap, the special reports deal with the following subjects:

As a reminder, these special report focus on the following themes:

- Special Report No 18/2015 of the Court of Auditors entitled “Financial assistance provided to Member States in difficulties”
- Special Report No 19/2015 of the Court of Auditors entitled "More attention to result needed to improve the delivery of technical assistance to Greece"
- Special Report No 21/2015 of the Court of Auditors entitled "Review of the risks related to a results-oriented approach for Union development and cooperation action"
- Special Report No 23/2015 of the Court of Auditors entitled "Water quality in the Danube river basin: progress in implementing the Water Framework Directive but still some way to go”
- Special Report No 24/2015 of the Court of Auditors entitled "Tackling intra-Community VAT fraud: More action needed"
- Special Report No 25/2015 of the Court of Auditors entitled "EU support for rural infrastructure: potential to achieve significantly greater value for money"
- Special Report No 1/2016 of the Court of Auditors entitled "Is the Commission’s system for performance measurement in relation to farmers’ incomes well designed and based on sound data?"
- Special Report No 3/2016 of the Court of Auditors entitled “Combating eutrophication in the Baltic Sea: further and more effective action needed”
- Special Report No 4/2016 of the Court of Auditors entitled “The European Institute of Innovation and Technology must modify its delivery mechanism and elements of its design to achieve the expected impact”
- Special Report No 5/2016 of the Court of Auditors entitled “Has the Commission ensured effective implementation of the Services Directive?”
- Special Report No 6/2016 of the Court entitled “Eradication, control and monitoring programmes to contain animal diseases”
- Special Report No 7/2016 of the Court of Auditors entitled “The European External Action Service’ s management of its buildings around the world”
- Special Report No 8/2016 of the Court of Auditors entitled “Rail freight transport performance in the EU: still not on the right track”
- Special Report No 9/2016 of the Court of Auditors entitled “Union external migration spending in Southern Mediterranean and Eastern Neighbourhood countries until 2014"
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Special Report No 10/2016 of the Court of Auditors entitled “Further improvements needed to ensure effective implementation of the excessive deficit procedure”

- Special Report No 11/2016 of the Court of Auditors entitled “Strengthening administrative capacity in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia: limited progress in a difficult context”
- Special report No 12/2016 of the Court of Auditors entitled “Agencies’ use of grants: not always appropriate or demonstrably effective”
- Special Report No 13/2016 of the Court of Auditors entitled “Union assistance for strengthening the public administration in Moldova”
- Special Report No 14/2016 of the Court of Auditors entitled “EU policy initiatives and financial support for Roma integration: significant progress made over the last decade, but additional efforts needed on the ground”
- Special report No 15/2016 of the Court of Auditors entitled “Did the Commission affectively manage the Humanitarian aid provided to populations effected by conflicts in the African Great Lakes Region?”
- Special report No 16/2016 of the Court entitled "EU education objectives: programmes aligned but shortcomings in performance measurement"
- Special Report No 17/2016 of the Court of Auditors entitled “The EU institutions can do more to facilitate access to their public procurement”
- Special Report No 18/2016 of the Court of Auditors entitled “The EU system for the certification of sustainable biofuels”
- Special report No 19/2016 of the Court entitled “Implementing the EU budget through financial instruments - Lessons to be learnt from the 2007-2013 programme”
- Special report No 20/2016 of the Court of Auditors entitled “Strengthening capacity in Montenegro: progress but better needed in many key areas”
- Special Report No 22/2016 of the Court of Auditors entitled “EU nuclear decommissioning assistance programmes in Lithuania, Bulgaria and Slovakia: some progress made since 2011 but critical challenges ahead”
- Special Report No 23/2016 of the Court of Auditors entitled “Maritime transport in the EU: in troubled waters - much ineffective and unsustainable investment”
- Special Report No 25/2016 of the Court of Auditors entitled “The Land Parcel Identification System: a useful tool to determine the eligibility of agricultural land – but its management could be further improved”
- Special Report No 26/2016 of the Court of entitled “Making cross-compliance more effective and achieving simplification remains challenging”
- Special Report No 27/2016 of the Court of Auditors entitled "Governance at the European Commission - best practice?"
- Special Report No 28/2016 of the Court of Auditors entitled “Dealing with serious cross-border threats to health in the EU: important steps taken but more needs to be done”.

A summary of the special reports can be found on the Court of Auditor’s website.

It should be noted that the amendments proposed by the GUE/NGL group in plenary were all rejected.