

2016 discharge: Court of Auditors' special reports

2017/2188(DEC) - 28/03/2018 - Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading

The Committee on Budgetary Control adopted the report by Joachim ZELLER (EPP, DE) on the Court of Auditors' special reports in the context of the 2016 Commission discharge.

In the motion for a resolution, Members 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.

They note that the Parliament's observations on the special reports of the Court of Auditors form an integral part of Parliament's decision on the general discharge in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2016, Section III – Commission.

Members then returned to each of the reports in question and made a number of recommendations to improve the use of EU funds.

As a reminder, the special reports deal with the following subjects:

- Special Report No 21/2016 of the Court of Auditors entitled "EU pre-accession assistance for strengthening administrative capacity in the Western Balkans: A meta- audit";
- Special Report No 24/2016 of the Court of Auditors entitled "More efforts needed to raise awareness of and enforce compliance with State aid rules in cohesion policy";
- Special Report No 29/2016 of the Court of Auditors entitled "Single Supervisory Mechanism - Good start but further improvements needed";
- Special Report No 30/2016 of the Court of Auditors entitled "The effectiveness of EU support to priority sectors in Honduras";
- Special Report No 31/2016 of the Court of Auditors entitled " Spending at least one euro in every five from the EU budget on climate action: ambitious work underway, but at serious risk of falling short";
- Special Report No 32/2016 of the Court of Auditors entitled "EU assistance to Ukraine";
- Special Report No 33/2016 of the Court of Auditors entitled " Union Civil Protection Mechanism: the coordination of responses to disasters outside the EU has been broadly effective";
- Special Report No 34/2016 of the Court of Auditors entitled "Combating Food Waste: an opportunity for the EU to improve the resource-efficiency of the food supply chain";
- Special Report No 35/2016 of the Court of Auditors entitled "The use of budget support to improve domestic revenue mobilisation in sub-Saharan Africa";
- Special Report No 36/2016 of the Court of Auditors entitled "An assessment of the arrangements for closure of the 2007-2013 cohesion and rural development programmes";
- Special Report No 1/2017 of the Court of Auditors entitled "More efforts needed to implement the Natura 2000 network to its full potential";
- Special Report No 2/2017 of the Court of Auditors entitled "The Commission's negotiation of 2014-2020 Partnership Agreements and programmes in Cohesion: spending more targeted on Europe 2020 priorities, but increasingly complex arrangements to measure performance";
- Special Report No 3/2017 of the Court of Auditors entitled "EU assistance to Tunisia";
- Special Report No 4/2017 of the Court of Auditors entitled "Protecting the EU budget from irregular spending: The Commission made increasing use of preventive measures and financial corrections in Cohesion during the 2007-2013 period";

- Special Report No 5/2017 of the Court of Auditors entitled "Youth unemployment - have EU policies made a difference? An assessment of the Youth Guarantee and the Youth Employment Initiative";
- Special Report No 6/2017 of the Court of Auditors entitled "EU response to the refugee crisis: the “hotspot” approach”;
- Special Report No 7/2017 of the Court of Auditors entitled "The certification bodies’ new role on CAP expenditure: a positive step towards a single audit model but with significant weaknesses to be addressed”;
- Special Report No 8/2017 of the Court of Auditors entitled "EU fisheries controls: more efforts needed”;
- Special Report No 9/2017 of the Court of Auditors entitled "EU support to fight human trafficking in South/South-East Asia”;
- Special Report No 10/2017 of the Court of Auditors entitled "EU support to young farmers should be better targeted to foster effective generational renewal”;
- Special Report No 11/2017 of the Court of Auditors entitled "The Bêkou EU trust fund for the Central African Republic: a hopeful beginning despite some shortcomings”;
- Special Report No 12/2017 of the Court of Auditors entitled "Implementing the Drinking Water Directive: water quality and access to it improved in Bulgaria, Hungary and Romania, but investment needs remain substantial”;
- Special Report No 13/2017 of the Court of Auditors entitled "A single European rail traffic management system: will the political choice ever become reality?”;
- Special Report No 14/2017 of the Court of Auditors entitled "Performance review of case management at the Court of Justice of the European Union”;
- Special Report No 16/2017 of the Court of Auditors entitled "Rural Development Programming: less complexity and more focus on results needed”;
- Special Report No 17/2017 of the Court of Auditors entitled "The Commission's intervention in the Greek financial crisis”;
- Special Report No 18/2017 of the Court of Auditors entitled "Single European Sky”;
- Special Report No 21/2017 of the Court of Auditors entitled "Greening: a more complex income support scheme, not yet environmentally”.

A summary of the [Special Reports](#) in question is given on the website of the Court of Auditors.