Basic information

1995/2271(DEC) DEC - Discharge procedure	Procedure completed
1994 discharge: EC General budget **Subject** 8.70.03.07 Previous discharges	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible		Rapporteur	Appointed
CONT	Budgetary Control	WYNN Terence (PSE)	13/11/1995

Committee for opinion		Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
ENER	Research, Technological Development and Energy		
RELA	External Economic Relations	MIRANDA DE LAGE Ana (PSE)	28/11/1995
REGI	Regional Policy	GUTIÉRREZ DÍAZ Antoni (GUE/NGL)	17/10/1995
TRAN	Transport and Tourism		
ENVI	Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection	FLORENZ Karl-Heinz (PPE)	21/11/1995
DEVE	Development and Cooperation	TELKÄMPER Wilfried (V)	24/11/1995
PECH	Fisheries	D'ABOVILLE Gérard (UPE)	23/11/1995
FEMM	Women's Rights		

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
Economic and Financial Affairs ECOFIN	1906	1996-03-11

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
11/03/1996	Debate in Council		
11/03/1996	Non-legislative basic document published	05232/1996	Summary
26/03/1996	Vote in committee		Summary
26/03/1996	Committee report tabled for plenary	A4-0098/1996	
27/03/1996	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
16/04/1996	Debate in Parliament		
17/04/1996	End of procedure in Parliament		
21/06/1996	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	1995/2271(DEC)
Procedure type	DEC - Discharge procedure
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 101
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	CONT/4/07232

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A4-0098/1996 OJ C 141 13.05.1996, p. 0006	26/03/1996	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T4-0177/1996 OJ C 141 13.05.1996, p. 0086-0111	17/04/1996	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T4-0178/1996 OJ C 141 13.05.1996, p. 0086-0111	17/04/1996	

Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Non-legislative basic document	05232/1996	11/03/1996	Summary

Other institutions and bodies

Institution/body	Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
CofA	Court of Auditors: opinion, report	RCC0018/1994 OJ C 303 14.11.1995, p. 0001	26/10/1995	

Additional information		
Source	**Document**	**Date**
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act
Decision 1996/0377 OJ L 148 21.06.1996, p. 0041

1994 discharge: EC General budget

1995/2271(DEC) - 11/03/1996 - Non-legislative basic document

In its recommendation, the Council asks the European Parliament to give discharge to the Commission in respect of the implementation of the budget of the EC for the financial year 1994. It recalls that, according to the revenue and expenditure account for the financial year 1994, revenue was ECU 66 449 600 985.38, expenditure was ECU 59 909 124 524.49 and the balance is ECU 6 540 476 460.89. 78.90% of the ECU 2 186 048 947.38 in appropriations for payments carried forward from 1993 to 1994 were used and appropriations for payments carried forward from the financial year 1994 to 1995 amounted to ECU 1 372 447 820.01. In the comments accompanying this recommendation, the Council invites the Commission to take appropriate action to follow up the remarks of the Court of Auditors and also points out that: - the Community's programmes must comply with clearly-established priorities and must have a legal basis which sets out their objectives; - the Commission must step up its efforts to deal with out-of-date appropriations and the concentration of commitments or payments at the end of the financial year; - the justification for action must be periodically re-examined. In the area of own resources, the Council notes that the monitoring programmes and risk analysis system need to be strengthened in order to recover import duties. In the area of expenditure, the Council stresses the need, in particular: - to improve the management and control of the COM in fruit and vegetables; - for the Structural Funds, to reduce the concentration of payments at the end of the financial year; - in the field of regional policy, to ensure that the proper procedure is followed in respect of public contracts and to apply stringently environmental legislation; - to use a more precise definition of SMEs; - to improve management of the specific research programme on human capital and mobility; - regarding the PHARE and TACIS programmes, to improve coordination between those taking part; - with respect to the programmes concerning the Mediterranean countries, to improve the allocation of human resources.

1994 discharge: EC General budget

1995/2271(DEC) - 17/04/1996 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

In adopting the report by Mr Terence WYNN (PSE, RU), Parliament noted that 80% of the Union budget is managed by Member States and that no meaningful and durable improvement of the budget implementation is conceivable without efforts to improve management at national, regional and local level. Whilst giving discharge (except for EAGGF expenditure on which final checks still have to be made), Parliament regretted the lukewarm attitude taken by the Commission towards Member States ignoring their legal obligations, and insisted that it make full use of the means at its disposal to guarantee the effective utilization of appropriations. For the first time the discharge contains the Court of Auditors' Statement of Assurance (DAS), issued under the Maastricht Treaty, on the legality of transactions. The EP asked the Commission henceforth to include in its accounts an account under the heading 'specified amounts subject to recovery proceedings', with a view to providing better information to the budgetary authority on the measures taken to recover payments made in error. Parliament also made a number of comments on, inter alia, the following points: - the transit system, on which Parliament was awaiting the conclusions of its committee of inquiry; - certain agricultural spending: it pointed out the big gap between budget estimates and actual spending, and deplored the fall in the rate of utilization for monitoring EAGGF Guarantee Expenditure; - the Common Organization of the Market for fruit and vegetables, in connection with which it noted the large number of errors made by several Member States in the implementation of the rules (winegrowing and tobacco sectors in particular); - the Structural Funds, which raised administrative problems that could lead to genuine bottlenecks in the years ahead; - the ESF, whose decision-making processes relating to finance were not always clear; - the fight against fraud, in respect of which it regretted the low usage of appropriations of some headings (notably agriculture and research); - cooperation with third countries, whose supervision and control procedures should be better targeted; - the PHARE and TACIS programmes, in respect of which Parliament asked for a number of points to be clarified and on which it awaited reports for the second half of 1996 concerning the management and the financial responsibilities of all elements.