Basic information

2004/2047(DEC) DEC - Discharge procedure	Procedure completed
2003 discharge: EC general budget, European Ombudsman **Subject** 8.70.03.07 Previous discharges	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
CONT Budgetary Control	STUBB Alexander (PPE-DE)	22/09/2004

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
AFET Foreign Affairs	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
DEVE Development	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
INTA International Trade	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
BUDG Budgets	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
ECON Economic and Monetary Affairs	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
EMPL Employment and Social Affairs	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
ENVI Environment, Public Health and Food Safety	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
ITRE Industry, Research and Energy	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
IMCO Internal Market and Consumer Protection	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	

TRAN	Transport and Tourism	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
REGI	Regional Development	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
AGRI	Agriculture and Rural Development	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
PECH	Fisheries	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
CULT	Culture and Education	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
JURI	Legal Affairs	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
LIBE	Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
AFCO	Constitutional Affairs	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
FEMM	Women's Rights and Gender Equality	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
PETI	Petitions	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
01/06/2004	Non-legislative basic document published	DECHARGEVOLUMEIII/2004	Summary
26/01/2005	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
17/03/2005	Vote in committee		
17/03/2005	Additional information		Summary
22/03/2005	Committee report tabled for plenary	A6-0066/2005	
12/04/2005	Decision by Parliament	T6-0099/2005	Summary
12/04/2005	Debate in Parliament		

12/04/2005	End of procedure in Parliament		
27/07/2005	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2004/2047(DEC)
Procedure type	DEC - Discharge procedure
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 102
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	CONT/6/22231

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A6-0066/2005	22/03/2005	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T6-0099/2005 OJ C 033 09.02.2006, p. 0028-0218 E	12/04/2005	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Non-legislative basic document	DECHARGEVOLUMEIII/2004	01/06/2004	Summary

Other institutions and bodies

Institution/body	Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
CofA	Court of Auditors: opinion, report	C293/2004 OJ C 293 30.11.2004, p. 0001-0328	30/11/2004	Summary

Additional information

Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act

Budget 2005/0537
OJ L 196 27.07.2005, p. 0057-0057 Summary

2003 discharge: EC general budget, European Ombudsman

2004/2047(DEC) - 01/06/2004 - Non-legislative basic document

PURPOSE : to present the revenue and expenditure account and the balance sheet concerning the activities of the budget for the financial year 2003 (European Ombudsman).

CONTENT : this document sets out the amount of expenditure and the balance sheet for the other institutions of the Union (except the Commission) for the financial year 2003, in particular, the European Ombudsman.

The appropriations entered in the final budget 2003 amount to EUR 4 438 653 committed to the amount of 91.3%.

In 2003, the year of the appointment of the new European Ombudsman, the implementation of the budget was marked by several transfers of appropriations between posts in particular as regards:

- the reinforcement of the allocation of “stages” given that the number of “stages” within the Ombudsman keeps increasing;

- the readjustment of the allocation of posts in order to take account of the Ombudsman’s new requests;

- the strengthening of positions within the publications sector given that the new Ombudsman wishes to increase the dissemination of brochures concerning the Ombudsman’s role in the new Member States;

- the increase of appropriations for translation (notably for the Ombudsman’s Annual Report);

- the increase of certain specific posts such as “agents” in order to take account of the recruitment of new staff.

It should be noted that the Ombudsman regrets that the position “mission costs”, which was strengthening by a transfer of appropriations in 2003, was not as sufficiently funded as it should have been. It wishes therefore that its allocation be strengthened.

2003 discharge: EC general budget, European Ombudsman

2004/2047(DEC) - 30/11/2004

PURPOSE : to present the Court of Auditors’ report on the budget implementation for the financial year 2003 (Other institutions – European Ombudsman).

CONTENT : in its 27th Annual Report on the 2003 financial year, the Court states that, on the whole, the institutions have made a considerable effort to adapt their supervisory systems and controls to the requirements of the new Financial Regulation. Nevertheless, most of them have not succeeded to implement the changes necessary and weakness have been stated in terms of the legality and regularity of the underlying transactions. These discrepancies do not however jeopardise the positive character of the State of Assurance (DAS) on the implementation of the budget for the other institutions.

Concerning the expenditure, the Court highlights that there were no significant discrepancies. It does note that the new supervisory systems and controls should have been better applied by all the institutions in order to respect the rules of the new Financial Regulation.

Lastly, it should be noted that in 2003, the authorising officers by delegation have presented for the first time annual activity reports which provide very useful information on the working of the control systems. The Court would like these report to be more comprehensive so that they can be used in the framework of the annual DAS.

2003 discharge: EC general budget, European Ombudsman

2004/2047(DEC) - 12/04/2005 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted a resolution drafted by Alexander STUBB (EPP-ED, FI) granting the Ombudsman discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget for the 2003 financial year. The Ombudsman administered a budget of EUR 4 438 653, of which 91.29% was committed and 87.65 % spent. Parliament noted that the Ombudsman’s explanation that the lower level of budget execution in 2003 was caused by the transition period following the retirement of the former Ombudsman and the election of the new Ombudsman. Parliament welcomed the fact that the Ombudsman has willingly provided the authorising officer's and the internal auditor's annual reports, including a statement of assurance.

2003 discharge: EC general budget, European Ombudsman

2004/2047(DEC) - 12/04/2005 - Final act

OBJECTIVE: granting of discharge for implementing the EU’s general budget for 2003 –European Ombudsman.

LEGISLATIVE ACT: Decision 2005/537/EC of the European Parliament concerning the discharge for implementing the general budget of the EU for the 2003 financial year (Section VIII– Ombudsman).

CONTENT: With this Decision, the European Parliament grants discharge to the European Ombudsman for the implementation of the budget for the 2003 financial year.

This decision is in line with the European Parliament’s resolution adopted on 12 April 2005 and comprises a series of observations that form an integral part of the discharge decision (please refer to the summary of the opinion of 12/04/2005).