Basic information

2019/2058(DEC) DEC - Discharge procedure	Procedure completed
2018 discharge: EU general budget, Court of Justice **Subject** 8.70.03.08 2018 discharge	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
CONT Budgetary Control	ZDECHOVSKÝ Tomáš (EPP)	04/09/2019
	Shadow rapporteur GARCÍA MUÑOZ Isabel (S&D) STRUGARIU Ramona (Renew) PEKSA Mikuláš (Greens/EFA) FITTO Raffaele (ECR) KUHS Joachim (ID) FLANAGAN Luke Ming (GUE/NGL)	

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	LEBRETON Gilles (ID)	03/09/2019
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.	

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
Budget	OETTINGER Günther

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
27/06/2019	Non-legislative basic document published	COM(2019)0316	
18/09/2019	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
19/02/2020	Vote in committee		
10/03/2020	Committee report tabled for plenary	A9-0027/2020	
13/05/2020	Results of vote in Parliament		
14/05/2020	Decision by Parliament	T9-0085/2020	Summary
14/05/2020	Results of vote in Parliament		
14/05/2020	End of procedure in Parliament		
15/05/2020	Results of vote in Parliament		
11/12/2020	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2019/2058(DEC)
Procedure type	DEC - Discharge procedure
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 165
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	CONT/9/00961

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE639.829	12/12/2019	
Committee opinion	JURI	PE642.851	09/01/2020	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE645.091	29/01/2020	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A9-0027/2020	10/03/2020	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T9-0085/2020	14/05/2020	Summary

Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Supplementary non-legislative basic document	05760/1/2020	17/02/2020	

European Commission			
Document type	**Reference**	**Date**	**Summary**
Non-legislative basic document	COM(2019)0316	27/06/2019	

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

Final act
Budget 2020/1881 OJ L 417 11.12.2020, p. 0149

2018 discharge: EU general budget, Court of Justice

2019/2058(DEC) - 14/05/2020 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament decided by 605 votes to 76, with 10 abstentions, to **grant discharge** to the Registrar of the Court of Justice in respect of the implementation of the budget of the Court of Justice of the European Union for the financial year 2018.

In the resolution accompanying its discharge decision (adopted by 604 votes in favour, 78 against and 11 abstentions), the European Parliament made a series of observations:

Budgetary and financial management

In its Annual Report 2018, the Court of Auditors identified no significant weaknesses with respect to the audited topics relating to human resources and procurement for the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU). It concluded that the payments for the year ended 31 December 2018 for administrative and other expenditure of the ECJ were, overall, free from material error and that the supervisory and control systems examined were effective.

In 2018, the budget of the ECJ amounted to EUR 410 025 089 compared to EUR 399 344 000 in 2017, which represents an increase of 2.67%, an overall implementation rate of 99.18% (compared to 98.69% in 2017).

Parliament welcomed the sound financial management and the overall prudence shown by the ECJ in the financial year 2018, noting the efforts made by the ECJ to avoid significant discrepancies between commitments (99.18%) and payments (94.04%). The ECJ is called upon to continue its efforts to prepare sound budget estimates.

Cases brought before the Court of Justice

Members recognised the CJEU's careful planning and monitoring to ensure a smooth continuity of judicial activity: in 2018, the average duration of proceedings in 2018 at the Court of Justice was 15.7 months (compared to 16.4 months in 2017) and at the General Court was 20 months (compared to 20.6 months in 2015 and 16 months in 2017). The CJEU is encouraged to continue its efforts to shorten the duration of proceedings whenever possible.

Parliament welcomed the fact that the two courts comprising the CJEU closed 1769 cases in 2018, which represents record productivity. This confirms a general trend of a strong increase in judicial activity over the period 2012-2018.

In view of the growing increase in the number of cases, the CJEU could be more efficient if it showed more flexibility in the allocation of its resources, in particular with regard to the existing legal secretaires. The CJEU is invited to report on the concrete measures it has taken.

Other observations

The Court was invited, *inter alia*, to:

- address the continuing imbalance in the number of women judges, both in the Court of Justice and in the General Court;

- closely monitor the geographical imbalance among the staff, in particular at management level;

- publish without delay strict rules on internal procedures concerning the practice of revolving doors for senior management staff;

- assess whether the workload is properly distributed between teams and among staff members;

- publish on an annual basis a table with detailed data on its interinstitutional cooperation agreements;

- publish more detailed information on the external activities of its members, as well as the CVs and declarations of interests of all its members on its website;

- broadcast its public hearings and to make recordings available online;

- improve the control system for the use of official cars, so as to avoid situations in which drivers are going to members' home countries without having the member on board.

In general, Parliament highlighted the work achieved in recent years on issues such as performance-based budgeting, the ethical framework and the many related rules and procedures, enhanced communication activities and the increasing number of measures to improve transparency. It underlined the importance of collaboration and of sharing of experience among Union institutions and bodies and suggested that an analysis be made of the possibility of formalised networking activities in different domains in order to share best practises and to develop common solutions.