Basic information	
2020/2143(DEC) DEC - Discharge procedure	Procedure completed
2019 discharge: General budget of the EU - Court of Justice **Subject** 8.70.03.09 2019 discharge	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
CONT Budgetary Control	STRUGARIU Ramona (Renew)	10/07/2020
	Shadow rapporteur LENAERS Jeroen (EPP) GARCÍA MUÑOZ Isabel (S&D) PEKSA Mikuláš (Greens/EFA) CZARNECKI Ryszard (ECR) 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)	02/09/2020
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	HAHN Johannes

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
29/07/2020	Non-legislative basic document published	COM(2020)0288	
15/09/2020	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
01/03/2021	Vote in committee		
26/03/2021	Committee report tabled for plenary	A9-0064/2021	Summary
27/04/2021	Debate in Parliament		
28/04/2021	Decision by Parliament	T9-0167/2021	Summary
24/09/2021	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2020/2143(DEC)
Procedure type	DEC - Discharge procedure
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	CONT/9/03749

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee opinion	JURI	PE657.430	15/12/2020	
Committee draft report		PE657.240	16/12/2020	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE680.751	08/02/2021	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A9-0064/2021	26/03/2021	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T9-0167/2021	28/04/2021	Summary

Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Supplementary non-legislative basic document	05792/2021	05/02/2021	

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Non-legislative basic document	COM(2020)0288	29/07/2020	

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

Final act
Budget 2021/1548 OJ L 340 24.09.2021, p. 0122

2019 discharge: General budget of the EU - Court of Justice

2020/2143(DEC) - 28/04/2021 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament decided by 612 votes to 78, with 8 abstentions, to grant discharge to the Registrar of the Court of Justice in respect of the implementation of the Court's budget for the financial year 2019.

Members noted with satisfaction that the Court of Auditors observed that no significant weaknesses in respect of the audited topics relating to human resources and procurement for the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU). The payments as a whole for the year ended on 31 December 2019 for administrative and other expenditure of the Court of Justice were free from material error.

Budgetary and financial management

In 2019, the CJEU's budget amounted to EUR 429 468 936 (EUR 410 025 089 in 2018) and that the implementation rate was 98.7 % (compared to 99.18 % in 2018). Almost 75 % of the CJEU's budget was allocated to expenditure on the members and staff. Members noted that the CJEU continues to overestimate some of its commitments for various budget lines and that substantial amounts were paid in 2020 from the commitments carried forward. The CJEU is called on to pursue its efforts to ensure sound financial management for all budget lines in order to avoid significant discrepancies between commitments and payments.

Internal management, internal control, performance

Parliament pointed out that the Court of Justice registered a large number of new cases in 2019, 966, a 13.78 % increase compared to 2018. A large number of new cases were also brought before the General Court in 2019, 939, compared to 834 in 2018. A record number of closed cases was recorded at 865, a 13.8% increase compared to 2018.

In 2019, the issues dealt with by the Court of Justice related mainly to competition and state aid and the area of freedom, security and justice, while the issues dealt with by the General Court concerned mainly state aid and intellectual and industrial property.

Members welcomed the reduction of the average length of proceedings before the Court of Justice and the General Court.

Stressing the importance of reporting on the main key performance indicators put in place as part of the structural reform process, Members called on the CJEU to provide a summary in the next annual activity report.

Human resources

The distribution of posts by area of activity remains similar to that of previous years, with almost 85% of posts devoted to judicial and linguistic activities.

Members stressed the importance of addressing the lack of gender balance in the College of Judges, while noting that equal opportunities efforts are increasingly visible at the administrative level, with the proportion of women rising to 41% in middle management and 40% in senior management.

Noting with concern the high number of burnout cases reported in recent years at the CJEU, Members urged the CJEU to closely monitor the effectiveness of newly introduced measures to cope with the increased workload and to make more substantial efforts to prevent burnout.

Ethics and integrity policy

Parliament noted that one case of alleged harassment was reported in 2019 and that it was concluded that the alleged facts did not constitute harassment within the meaning of Article 12a of the Staff Regulations. It welcomed the fact that rules and procedures to combat harassment are published on the CJEU's intranet site.

Members welcomed the "Rules of good conduct" training and the creation of the "Equal Opportunities and Diversity" unit in the Directorate for Human Resources and Personnel Administration.

Recalling that the latest revision of the code of conduct for staff members came into force on 1 January 2017, Members reiterated the need for detailed provisions on issues such as conflicts of interest, outside activities, occupational activities after leaving service and gainful employment of spouses.

Communication

A key focus of the CJEU's communication activities in 2019 was the increased use of proprietary social media to ensure greater dissemination of its information. Members called on the CJEU to be present on free social networks to improve transparency and broaden its audience. They also highlighted the development of cooperation with national judges, 2824 of whom were received at the Court for seminars, training, visits or internships in 2019, compared with 2292 in 2018.

Lastly, Parliament welcomed the fact that the CJEU has always cooperated fully with OLAF and that it is committed to continuing this good cooperation.

2019 discharge: General budget of the EU - Court of Justice

2020/2143(DEC) - 26/03/2021 - Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading

The Committee on Budgetary Control adopted the report by Ramona STRUGARIU (Renew Europe, RO) calling on the European Parliament to give discharge to the Registrar of the Court of Justice in respect of the implementation of the Court’s budget for the financial year 2019.

Members noted with satisfaction that the Court of Auditors observed that no significant weaknesses in respect of the audited topics relating to human resources and procurement for the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU).

The payments as a whole for the year ended on 31 December 2019 for administrative and other expenditure of the Court of Justice were free from material error.

Budgetary and financial management

Members noted that in 2019, the CJEU’s budget amounted to EUR 429 468 936 (EUR 410 025 089 in 2018) and that the implementation rate was 98.7 % (compared to 99.18 % in 2018). Almost 75 % of the CJEU’s budget was allocated to expenditure on the members and staff. The report noted that the CJEU continues to overestimate some of its commitments for various budget lines. In this regard, Members called on the CJEU to pursue its efforts to ensure sound financial management for all budget lines in order to avoid significant discrepancies between commitments and payments.

Court cases

The report pointed out that the Court of Justice registered a large number of new cases in 2019, 966, a 13.78 % increase compared to 2018. A large number of new cases were also brought before the General Court in 2019, 939, compared to 834 in 2018. A record number of closed cases was recorded at 865, a 13.8% increase compared to 2018.

In 2019, the issues dealt with by the Court of Justice related mainly to competition and state aid and the area of freedom, security and justice, while the issues dealt with by the General Court concerned mainly state aid and intellectual and industrial property.

Members welcomed the reduction of the average length of proceedings before the Court of Justice and the General Court.

Human resources

The distribution of posts by sector of activity remains similar to that of previous years, with almost 85 % of posts dedicated to jurisdictional and linguistic activities. Noting with concern the high number of cases of burnout reported in recent years within the CJEU, Members urged the CJEU to closely monitor the effectiveness of the newly introduced measures to address the increasing workload and to make more substantial efforts to prevent burnout.

Communication

The report noted that one of the main points of the CJEU’s communication activities in 2019 was the increased use of proprietary social media in order to ensure a greater dissemination of its information.