Basic information

2020/2152(DEC) DEC - Discharge procedure	Procedure completed
2019 discharge: European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) **Subject** 8.70.03.09 2019 discharge	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
CONT Budgetary Control	BRUDZIŃSKI Joachim Stanisław (ECR)	08/09/2020
	Shadow rapporteur ZDECHOVSKÝ Tomáš (EPP) RÓNAI Sándor (S&D) STRUGARIU Ramona (Renew) EICKHOUT Bas (Greens/EFA) OMARJEE Younous (GUE/NGL)	

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
LIBE Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs	CHINNICI Caterina (S&D)	01/10/2020

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
Budget	HAHN Johannes

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
29/06/2020	Non-legislative basic document published	COM(2020)0288	
15/09/2020	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
22/03/2021	Vote in committee		

30/03/2021	Committee report tabled for plenary	A9-0086/2021	
27/04/2021	Debate in Parliament		
28/04/2021	Decision by Parliament	T9-0176/2021	Summary
24/09/2021	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2020/2152(DEC)
Procedure type	DEC - Discharge procedure
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	CONT/9/03861

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE657.213	12/01/2021	
Committee opinion	LIBE	PE661.916	25/02/2021	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE680.800	04/03/2021	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A9-0086/2021	30/03/2021	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T9-0176/2021	28/04/2021	Summary

Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Supplementary non-legislative basic document	05793/2021	05/02/2021	

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Non-legislative basic document	COM(2020)0288	29/06/2020	

Additional information

Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act

Budget 2021/1568
OJ L 340 24.09.2021, p. 0203

2019 discharge: European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)

2020/2152(DEC) - 28/04/2021 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament decided by 563 votes to 85, with 50 abstentions, to grant discharge to the Director of the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) for the financial year 2019 and to approve the closure of the accounts for the financial year in question.

Noting that the Court of Auditors has stated that it has obtained reasonable assurances that the Agency's annual accounts for the financial year 2019 are reliable and that the underlying transactions are legal and regular, Parliament adopted by 557 votes to 92 with 42 abstentions, a resolution containing a series of recommendations, which form an integral part of the decision on discharge and which add to the general recommendations set out in the resolution on performance, financial management and control of EU agencies:

Agency's financial statements

The final budget of the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights for the financial year 2018 was EUR 22 871 576.30, representing a slight decrease of 0.39 % compared to 2018.

Budget and financial management

Budget monitoring efforts during the financial year 2019 resulted in a budget implementation rate of 100 %, the same rate as in 2018. The payment appropriations execution rate was low at 78.20 %, representing an increase of 2.51 % compared to 2018.

Parliament noted that according to the Court's report, carry-overs of committed appropriations were high for operating expenditure, mainly due to the nature of the activities which include financing studies that span several months and often beyond year-end. The Agency has introduced planning procedures to monitor the inevitable delays between the signing of contracts, deliveries and payments. Budget planning and its implementation cycle should be improved according to Parliament.

Other observations

Parliament made a series of observations regarding performance, conflicts of interest and internal controls.

In particular, it noted that:

- the performance measurement system and Key Performance Indicators should regularly review and updated with a view to improving its strategy and activity planning;

- the Agency should increase cooperation and exchanges of good practices with other EU agencies with a view to improving efficiency (human resources, building management, IT services and security);

- the Agency should be able to offer opinions on legislative proposals on its own initiative and to all areas of rights protected under the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, including issues of judicial and police cooperation in criminal matters;

- on 31 December 2019, the establishment plan was 98.61 % implemented, with 71 temporary agents appointed out of 72 temporary agents authorised under the EU budget (compared to 72 authorised posts in 2018);

- gender balance was achieved among senior managers (3 men and 3 women) and staff in general (50 % male and 50 % female);

- a code of good administrative behaviour has been put in place for its staff as well as a practical guide on the management and prevention of conflicts of interest. Compulsory training is also provided on anti-harassment, ethics and integrity.