Basic information

2021/2121(DEC) DEC - Discharge procedure	Procedure completed
2020 discharge: European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) **Subject** 8.70.03.10 2020 discharge	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
CONT Budgetary Control	CHRISTOFOROU Lefteris (EPP)	28/07/2021
	Shadow rapporteur CHINNICI Caterina (S&D) CHASTEL Olivier (Renew) EICKHOUT Bas (Greens /EFA) CZARNECKI Ryszard (ECR) KUHS Joachim (ID) OMARJEE Younous (The Left)	

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
TRAN Transport and Tourism	FALCĂ Gheorghe (EPP)	11/10/2021

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
Budget	HAHN Johannes

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
30/06/2021	Non-legislative basic document published	COM(2021)0381	
14/09/2021	Committee referral announced in Parliament		

31/03/2022	Vote in committee		
07/04/2022	Committee report tabled for plenary	A9-0122/2022	
04/05/2022	Decision by Parliament	T9-0165/2022	Summary
04/05/2022	Debate in Parliament		
05/10/2022	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2021/2121(DEC)
Procedure type	DEC - Discharge procedure
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 165
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	CONT/9/06759

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE698.961	14/01/2022	
Committee opinion	TRAN	PE699.182	17/01/2022	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE704.722	02/03/2022	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A9-0122/2022	07/04/2022	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T9-0165/2022	04/05/2022	Summary

Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Supplementary non-legislative basic document	06003/2022	16/02/2022	

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Non-legislative basic document	COM(2021)0381	30/06/2021	

Other institutions and bodies

Institution/body	Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
CofA	Court of Auditors: opinion, report	N9-0044/2022 OJ C 439 29.10.2021, p. 0003	29/10/2021	

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

Final act
Budget 2022/1731 OJ L 258 05.10.2022, p. 0218

2020 discharge: European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA)

2021/2121(DEC) - 04/05/2022 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament decided to **grant discharge** to the Executive Director of the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) for the financial year 2020 and to approve the closure of the accounts for that year.

Noting that the Court of Auditors has stated that it has obtained reasonable assurance that the Agency's annual accounts for the financial year 2020 are reliable and that the underlying transactions are legal and regular, Parliament adopted, by 560 votes to 19 with 46 abstentions, a resolution containing a series of recommendations which form an integral part of the discharge decision and which complement the general recommendations set out in the resolution on the performance, financial management and control of EU agencies.

Agency's financial statements

The Agency's final budget for the financial year 2020 was EUR 183 042 000, representing a decrease of 6.81 % compared to 2019. EUR 37 954 000 of the Agency’s budget derives from the Union budget and EUR 90 000 000 is revenue from fees and charges. The Covid-19 crisis led to a significant reduction in the Agency’s revenue from fees and charges of EUR 18 000 000 (-15 %).

Budgetary and financial management

The budget monitoring efforts during the financial year 2020 resulted in a budget implementation rate of 98.62 %, representing an increase of 1.93 % compared to 2019. Payment appropriations execution rate was 92.65 %, showing an increase of 3.59 % compared to 2019.

The Agency ended the year with a fees and charges surplus of EUR 9.4 million and the ‘fees and charges’ surplus is added to the accumulated surplus, increasing it from EUR 51.5 million to EUR 60.9 million.

Members noted that the rate of cancelled appropriations relating to commitments carried over to 2020 increased to 5.46 % (3.7 % in 2019), above the 2.5 % target set by the Agency in its 2020 performance indicators and slightly above the 5 % ceiling set by the Commission. This was

mainly due to the COVID-19 crisis and to the cancellations related to global travel restrictions, confinement measures, reduction in activities and cancellation of events. Parliament recommended that measures are taken to reach the 2.5% target;

Other observations

Parliament also made a series of observations concerning performance, staff policy, internal controls and Covid-19.

In particular, it noted that:

- the Agency monitored 59 key performance indicators, including targets to enhance budget administration such as a budget implementation rate equal to or greater than 95 %, commitment carry-over implementation rate equal to or lower than 5 %, fees and charges (F&C) revenue project implementation rate, and F&C outsourcing performance;

- the Agency, as an aviation sector regulator, has been widely affected by the Covid-19 pandemic;

- due to withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the Union, the Agency had to take back oversight of 129 third country organisations that were previously outsourced to the UK Civilian Aviation Authority;

- the Agency's swift response to the COVID-19 crisis, which provided the basis for a clear and harmonised approach across Europe was welcomed;

- on 31 December 2020, the establishment plan was 94.26 % implemented, with 641 temporary agents appointed out of 680 temporary agents authorised under the Union budget (compared to 680 authorised posts in 2019);

- in response to the Covid-19 crisis and its impact on the aviation industry, the Agency has taken a more conservative approach towards recruitment, striving to achieve the right balance between business needs and available resources, favouring internal mobility and temporary sharing of resources between units;

- the Agency´s response to the Covid-19 crisis focused on providing regulatory flexibility to the European aviation industry, ensuring the health safety of the passengers and front-line personnel, coordinating with international organisations to implement adequate measures to fight the spread of Covid-19, and adjusting priorities and working methods to the new realities and emerging challenges of the pandemic.