Basic information

2021/2124(DEC) DEC - Discharge procedure	Procedure completed
2020 discharge: European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) **Subject** 8.70.03.10 2020 discharge	

Key players

European Parliament

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

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
ENVI Environment, Public Health and Food Safety	CANFIN Pascal (Renew)	29/09/2021

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	A9-0099/2022	
04/05/2022	Decision by Parliament	T9-0167/2022	Summary
04/05/2022	Debate in Parliament		
05/10/2022	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2021/2124(DEC)
Procedure type	DEC - Discharge procedure
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	CONT/9/06753

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE698.964	14/01/2022	
Committee opinion	ENVI	PE699.302	19/01/2022	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE704.725	02/03/2022	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A9-0099/2022	07/04/2022	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T9-0167/2022	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 2022/1740 OJ L 258 05.10.2022, p. 0241

2020 discharge: European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)

2021/2124(DEC) - 04/05/2022 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament decided to **grant discharge** to the Director of the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control in respect of the implementation of the Centre's budget for the financial year 2020 and to approve the closure of the accounts for that year.

Noting that the Court of Auditors stated that it had obtained reasonable assurance that the Authority's annual accounts for the financial year 2020 were reliable and that the underlying transactions were legal and regular, Parliament adopted, by 564 votes to 75 with 2 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.

Centre's financial statements

The Centre's final budget for 2020 was EUR 62 490 000, representing an increase of 5.55 % compared to 2019.

Budgetary and financial management

The budget monitoring efforts during the financial year 2020 resulted in a budget implementation rate of 96.77 %, representing a decrease of 2.46 % compared to 2019. The payment appropriations execution rate was 75.26 %, also representing a decrease of 6.15 % compared to the previous year.

Other observations

Parliament also made a number of observations concerning performance, staff policy, public procurement, conflicts of interest, internal control and Covid-19.

In particular, it noted that:

- the Covid-19 outbreak in 2020 and the subsequent pandemic have been the most serious public health event that the Centre has had to respond to since it became operational in 2005. Supporting the EU’s response to Covid-19 became the Centre’s principal activity;

- the Centre activated its public health event operations plan on 9 January 2020, which guided the organisation through the emergency situation, and allowed it to redirect the resources needed to tackle the pandemic;

- it also delivered 56 % of the outputs initially planned in its single programming document 2020–2022, and 90 % of the outputs of the Covid-19 work programme approved in May 2020. 35 % of the Centre’s initially planned outputs were postponed to 2021 or cancelled;

- the Centre found it challenging to manage the timeliness, quality and completeness of information received from Member States regarding the pandemic given that different surveillance and testing strategies are used by the Member States which make comparisons and assessments difficult, and that, more generally, the Union’s public health competences are limited, which means that the Centre is to a considerable degree dependent on Member States for its effectiveness. Parliament noted that it took for instance almost a year after the Covid-19 outbreak in Europe before Member States used a common colour code system, and showed commitment to submitting their data to the Centre;

- the Centre is developing an entirely new European surveillance system with the aim of progressively covering Covid-19 and all other diseases and health conditions under the Union’s surveillance, thus reducing the reporting burden for Member States;

- on 31 December 2020, the establishment plan was 96.1 % implemented, with 173 temporary agents appointed out of 180 temporary agents authorised under the Union budget (compared to 180 authorised posts in 2019);

- due to the pandemic, the workload in the Centre significantly increased in 2020. The Centre was provided with increased short-term capacity in 2020 and, at the end of 2020, the Centre was also granted a number of long-term staff posts to be filled during the period 2021 to 2024 due to the prolonged sanitary crisis;

- the Centre concluded a total of 130 contracts in 2020, covering 10 framework contracts, 14 direct contracts and 106 specific contracts;

- 22 potential conflicts of interest were identified and investigated in 2020;

- an internal communications policy is to be developed, including communication on the objectives and responsibilities of internal control;

- the Centre increased its outreach significantly in 2020 in connection with the pandemic. Its website had 32 million page views, compared to 9 million between 2011 and 2019 in total.