Basic information

2021/2137(DEC) DEC - Discharge procedure	Procedure completed
2020 discharge: Euratom Supply Agency (ESA) **Subject** 8.70.03.10 2020 discharge	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
CONT Budgetary Control	CHRISTOFOROU Lefteris (EPP)	29/07/2021
	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
ITRE Industry, Research and Energy	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	

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	A9-0121/2022	
04/05/2022	Decision by Parliament	T9-0175/2022	Summary
04/05/2022	Debate in Parliament		
05/10/2022	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2021/2137(DEC)
Procedure type	DEC - Discharge procedure
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 165
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	CONT/9/06724

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE698.979	14/01/2022	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A9-0121/2022	07/04/2022	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T9-0175/2022	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 2022/1791 OJ L 258 05.10.2022, p. 0371

2020 discharge: Euratom Supply Agency (ESA)

2021/2137(DEC) - 04/05/2022 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament decided to **grant discharge** to the Director General of the Euratom Supply Agency (ESA) 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 Agency's annual accounts for the financial year 2020 were reliable and that the underlying transactions were legal and regular, Parliament adopted, by 529 votes to 27 with 10 abstentions, a resolution containing a series of recommendations which form an integral part of the discharge decision and which complement the general recommendations contained in the resolution on the performance, financial management and control of EU agencies.

Agency's financial statements

The Agency's final budget for the year 2020 was EUR 230 000, representing an increase of 3.14 % compared to 2019.

Budgetary and financial management

The budget monitoring efforts during the financial year 2020 resulted in a commitment appropriations implementation rate of 99.54 %, representing a decrease of 0.32 % compared to 2019. The payment appropriation execution rate was 22.33 %, representing a decrease of 18.72 % compared to 2019. The decrease is due to carrying forward outstanding commitments that amounted to EUR 177 578,67, or 78 % of committed amounts in relation to signed IT service contracts that had not been completed at year-end. The cancellation rate of budget appropriations carried over from 2019 to 2020 was 7 %, demonstrating unjustified commitments in the previous year. The Agency is invited to carry over budgetary appropriations only where justified.

Other observations

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

In particular, it noted that:

- the Agency should pursue the digitalisation of its services;

- on 31 December 2020, the establishment plan was 94.12 % implemented, with 16 Commission officials appointed out of 17 posts authorised under the Union budget (17 authorised posts in 2019). A gender ratio was noted for all staff with 56 % women and 44 % men and an equal opportunities policy in place;

- the Agency made efforts to reduce the effect of the pandemic on its staff and stakeholders by taking all necessary steps to continue its core duties and introduced changes in its spending pattern via a budget amendment to reduce expenses on actions negatively affected by the pandemic;

- the worldwide lockdown measures have accelerated the deployment of secure digital solutions resulting in an overall increase of the digital knowledge and maturity of stakeholders;

- in 2020, the Agency adopted its internal control framework, designed to provide reasonable assurance in achieving the objectives set in its financial regulation.

With regard to the withdrawal of the United Kingdom (UK) from the Union, that intense negotiations were held in 2020 with regard to the future partnership of the UK and the Union in the Agency, including in the civil nuclear area. On 24 December 2020, the EU and the UK signed the Euratom Agreement, which provides wide-ranging cooperation on safe and peaceful uses of nuclear energy, underpinned by commitments by both sides to comply with international non-proliferation obligations, upholding a high level of nuclear safety standards.