Basic information

2021/2143(DEC) DEC - Discharge procedure	Procedure completed
2020 discharge: European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation (Eurojust) **Subject** 8.70.03.10 2020 discharge	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
CONT Budgetary Control	ZDECHOVSKÝ Tomáš (EPP)	29/07/2021
	Shadow rapporteur CHINNICI Caterina (S&D) STRUGARIU Ramona (Renew) EICKHOUT Bas (Greens/EFA) CZARNECKI Ryszard (ECR) KUHS Joachim (ID) OMARJEE Younous (The Left)	

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
LIBE Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs	STRUGARIU Ramona (Renew)	26/10/2021

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	A9-0102/2022	
04/05/2022	Decision by Parliament	T9-0162/2022	Summary
04/05/2022	Debate in Parliament		
05/10/2022	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2021/2143(DEC)
Procedure type	DEC - Discharge procedure
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 165
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	CONT/9/06712

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE698.985	17/01/2022	
Committee opinion	LIBE	PE702.931	16/02/2022	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE704.745	03/03/2022	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A9-0102/2022	07/04/2022	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T9-0162/2022	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 2022/1797 OJ L 258 05.10.2022, p. 0384

2020 discharge: European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation (Eurojust)

2021/2143(DEC) - 04/05/2022 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament decided to **grant discharge** to the Administrative Director of the European Union Agency for Judicial Cooperation in Criminal Matters (Eurojust) 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 571 votes to 26 with 36 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.

Eurojust's financial statements

Eurojust's final budget for the financial year 2020 was EUR 41 700 000, an increase of 7.05% compared to 2019.

Budgetary and financial management

The budget monitoring efforts during the financial year 2020 resulted in a budget implementation rate of 99.99%, representing an increase of 0.11% compared to 2019. The execution rate of payment appropriations was 58.07%, representing a decrease of 5.54% compared to 2019.

Other observations

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

In particular, it noted that:

- the Agency supported an increase in the total number of cases in the past five years and that the recent trend of cases referred to the Agency are becoming more and more complex, requiring support over longer periods of time;

- further operational cooperation with Frontex had been agreed;

- the Agency defined 50 KPIs in its annual working plan for 2020, a reduction of 44 % compared to the annual working plan for 2019;

- it also continued to strengthen operational cooperation and the increase of case referrals by the liaison prosecutors, resulting in 291 new cases in 2020 and representing a 17 % increase compared to 2019;

- the Agency has stepped up its cooperation on criminal matters between the Union and its South partner countries (Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia) by becoming the host of the new phase of the EuroMed Justice Programme;

- prosecutors from across the Union and beyond turned to the Agency for assistance in 8 799 cross-border criminal investigations, an increase of 13 % compared to 2019, and that 4 200 were new cases opened during 2020,164 of which were related to the COVID-19 pandemic;

- the Agency provided legal, financial and operational support to 268 joint investigation teams in 2020 and facilitated the execution of 1 284 European Arrest Warrants;

- on 31 December 2020, the establishment plan was 99 % implemented, with 204 temporary agents appointed out of 207 temporary agents authorised under the Union budget (compared to 208 authorised posts in 2019);

- gender balance was achieved with 5 men and 5 women in senior and middle management, however, there is a lack of gender balance with 17 men and 9 women in the Agency's executive board and the overall staff with 71 men and 152 women;

- the Agency offered refresher training on psychological and sexual harassment to all staff;

- a number of weaknesses were detected in the Agency's audited public procurement procedures. Parliament called on it to step up efforts to address such weaknesses;

- the CVs of senior management, external experts and in-house experts of the Agency are not published on its website and should be done so immediately;

- the Agency maintained full operational continuity during the Covid-19 crisis;

- lastly, it established a dedicated team to monitor security logs and respond to potential cyber security incidents.