Basic information

2021/2145(DEC) DEC - Discharge procedure	Procedure completed
2020 discharge: European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) **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	A9-0111/2022	
04/05/2022	Decision by Parliament	T9-0156/2022	Summary
04/05/2022	Debate in Parliament		
05/10/2022	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2021/2145(DEC)
Procedure type	DEC - Discharge procedure
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	CONT/9/06706

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE698.987	17/01/2022	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE704.747	02/03/2022	
Committee opinion	LIBE	PE702.933	10/03/2022	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A9-0111/2022	07/04/2022	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T9-0156/2022	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 2022/1803 OJ L 258 05.10.2022, p. 0400

2020 discharge: European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)

2021/2145(DEC) - 04/05/2022 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament decided to **grant discharge** to the Director of the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) for the financial year 2020 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 2020 are reliable and that the underlying transactions are legal and regular, Parliament adopted by 515 votes to 87 with 36 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 2020 was EUR 24 167 314, representing an increase of 5.67 % compared to 2019.

Budget and financial management

Budget monitoring efforts during the financial year 2020 resulted in a budget implementation rate of 100 %, the same rate as in 2019. The payment appropriations execution rate was 70.85 %, representing a decrease of 7.85 % compared to 2019.

Parliament noted that, according to the Court´s report and the Agency's reply in the follow-up to the 2019 discharge, carry-overs of committed appropriations were high for operating expenditure, which mainly reflect the nature of the Agency's core activities, which include the financing of studies and other awareness-raising activities, spanning several months, often extending beyond the end of a year. Highlighting that structural issues are present at the Agency, the Agency should improve its budget planning and its implementation cycles.

Other observations

Parliament made a series of observations regarding performance, conflicts of interest, internal controls and Covid-19.

In particular, it noted that:

- a reform of its performance measurement framework was launched in 2020 to assess the impact of the Agency at both strategic and operational level;

- the Agency successfully implemented its annual work programme in 2020 and managed to accomplish all targets;

- on 31 December 2020, the establishment plan was 97.22 % implemented, with 70 temporary agents appointed out of 72 temporary agents authorised under the Union budget;

- working methods changed during the Covid-19 pandemic blurring the difference between working and leisure time for staff. Measures were put in place resulting in 75 % of the staff being satisfied with the flexible working arrangements and 85% feeling adequately informed on developments regarding working arrangements;

- despite the challenges posed by the pandemic, the Agency produced 163 079 materials and tools related to awareness-raising activities, which is well above the target set for 2020;

- the Agency introduced its first open call for tenders with e-submission during the first quarter of 2020;

- the Agency performed an internal assessment on the level of implementation of the new internal control framework and concluded that almost all components of the internal control framework are present and are functioning together in an integrated manner.