Basic information

2021/2156(DEC) DEC - Discharge procedure	Procedure completed
2020 discharge: Shift2Rail Joint Undertaking (Shift2Rail) **Subject** 8.70.03.10 2020 discharge	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
CONT Budgetary Control	CZARNECKI Ryszard (ECR)	28/07/2021
	Shadow rapporteur MARINESCU Marian-Jean (EPP) CREȚU Corina (S&D) WIEZIK Michal (Renew) RIVASI Michèle (Greens/EFA) 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.	
TRAN Transport and Tourism	FALCĂ Gheorghe (EPP)	11/10/2021

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
Budget	HAHN Johannes

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
		COM(2021)0381	

30/06/2021	Non-legislative basic document published		
14/09/2021	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
28/02/2022	Vote in committee		
28/03/2022	Committee report tabled for plenary	A9-0069/2022	
04/05/2022	Decision by Parliament	T9-0192/2022	Summary
04/05/2022	Debate in Parliament		
05/10/2022	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2021/2156(DEC)
Procedure type	DEC - Discharge procedure
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 165
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	CONT/9/06659

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE698.999	20/12/2021	
Committee opinion	TRAN	PE699.179	13/01/2022	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE703.132	02/02/2022	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A9-0069/2022	28/03/2022	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T9-0192/2022	04/05/2022	Summary

Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Supplementary non-legislative basic document	06005/2022	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	N9-0045/2022 OJ C 458 12.11.2021, p. 0020	12/11/2021	

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

Final act
Budget 2022/1834 OJ L 258 05.10.2022, p. 0499

2020 discharge: Shift2Rail Joint Undertaking (Shift2Rail)

2021/2156(DEC) - 04/05/2022 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament decided to **grant discharge** to the Executive Director of the Shift2Rail Joint Undertaking (now the Europe's Rail Joint Undertaking) in respect of the implementation of the budget of the Joint Undertaking for the financial year 2020 and approve the closure of the Joint Undertaking's accounts.

Noting that the Court of Auditors considered that the annual accounts of the Joint Undertaking for the financial year 2020 present fairly the financial situation of the Joint Undertaking on 31 December 2020, as well as the results of its operations, Parliament adopted, by 557 votes to 47 with 35 abstentions, a resolution containing a series of observations which form an integral part of the discharge decision.

General comments

The maximum EU contribution to the activities of the Joint Undertaking is EUR 450 000 000 (including EFTA contributions), to be paid from Horizon 2020. All members of the Joint Undertaking other than the Union (industry grouping) are to contribute total resources of at least EUR 470 000 000, consisting of at least EUR 350 000 000 to the operational activities of the Joint Undertaking and at least EUR 120 000 000 of in-kind contributions to the Joint Undertaking's additional activities.

In 2020, the cooperation in Member States as well as with international parties increased.

Budgetary and financial management

The final budget available in 2020 comprised commitment appropriations of EUR 89 711 000 and payment appropriations of EUR 80 289 000. The utilisation rates for the available commitment and payment appropriations were 94 % and 76 %, respectively. By the end of 2020, the Joint Undertaking implemented 100 % and 80 % respectively of the commitment appropriations and payment appropriations available for Horizon 2020 projects.

Parliament called for a harmonisation of the calculation of in-kind contributions to the Joint Undertaking.

Other comments

The resolution also contains a series of observations on performance, staff and procurement, internal control and internal audits.

In particular, it noted the following:

- at the end of 2020, 72 projects were ongoing (36 calls for members and 36 open calls): 55 projects were distributed on the 5 innovation programmes, 9 projects on the cross cutting activities and 8 projects in Innovation Programme X;

- by the end of 2020, the Shift2Rail Programme reached pivotal milestones in term of implementation as almost all the Joint Undertaking resources are committed for the Shift2Rail Programme activities;

- the total value of the activities performed in 2020 amounts to EUR 119.4 million (of which EUR 110.3 million was delivered by the members other than the Union);

- the current activities of the Joint Undertaking are progressing towards their demonstrations in 2022 and 2023 and this will ensure a proper phasing out and phasing in between two Programmes in the Shift2Rail successor Europe's Rail Joint Undertaking;

- on 31 December 2020, considering the exceptional temporary contract agent recruitment to replace a temporary agent, 24 position were filled;

- during 2020, fraud awareness and fraud risks were covered through the staff survey, carried out following the adoption of a revised internal control framework, and the risk assessment respectively;

- persistent systemic errors were found in the personnel costs declared by beneficiaries, in particular on the part of SMEs and new beneficiaries. Parliament encouraged the Joint Undertaking to strengthen its internal control systems given that SMEs and new beneficiaries are more error-prone.