Basic information

2023/2130(DEC) DEC - Discharge procedure	Procedure completed
2022 discharge: General budget of the EU - European Parliament **Subject** 8.70.03.12 2022 discharge	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
CONT Budgetary Control	NOVAKOV Andrey (EPP)	14/06/2023
	Shadow rapporteur GRAPINI Maria (S&D) BOYER Gilles (Renew) FREUND Daniel (Greens /EFA) CZARNECKI Ryszard (ECR) ADINOLFI Matteo (ID) OMARJEE Younous (The Left)	

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
AFET Foreign Affairs	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
DEVE Development	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
INTA International Trade	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
BUDG Budgets	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
ECON Economic and Monetary Affairs	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	

EMPL Employment and Social Affairs	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
ENVI Environment, Public Health and Food Safety	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
ITRE Industry, Research and Energy	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
IMCO Internal Market and Consumer Protection	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
TRAN Transport and Tourism	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
REGI Regional Development	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
AGRI Agriculture and Rural Development	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
PECH Fisheries	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
CULT Culture and Education	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
JURI Legal Affairs	HAUTALA Heidi (Greens /EFA)	18/09/2023
LIBE Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
AFCO Constitutional Affairs	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
FEMM Women's Rights and Gender Equality	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
Budget	HAHN Johannes

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
28/06/2023	Non-legislative basic document published	COM(2023)0391	
12/09/2023	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
22/02/2024	Vote in committee		
01/03/2024	Committee report tabled for plenary	A9-0067/2024	Summary
10/04/2024	Debate in Parliament		
11/04/2024	Decision by Parliament	T9-0229/2024	Summary
11/04/2024	Results of vote in Parliament		
10/10/2024	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2023/2130(DEC)
Procedure type	DEC - Discharge procedure
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	CONT/9/12754

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee opinion	JURI	PE753.632	04/12/2023	
Committee draft report		PE753.634	15/12/2023	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE758.805	01/02/2024	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A9-0067/2024	01/03/2024	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T9-0229/2024	11/04/2024	Summary

Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Supplementary non-legislative basic document	06179/2024	12/03/2024	

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Non-legislative basic document	COM(2023)0391	28/06/2023	

Other institutions and bodies

Institution/body	Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
CofA	Court of Auditors: opinion, report	N9-0060/2023 OJ C 000 04.10.2023, p. 0000	04/10/2023	

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

Meetings with interest representatives published in line with the Rules of Procedure

Rapporteurs, Shadow Rapporteurs and Committee Chairs

Transparency				
Name	**Role**	**Committee**	**Date**	**Interest representatives**
FREUND Daniel	Shadow rapporteur	CONT	20/09/2023	Transparency International Liaison Office to the European Union

Final act	
Budget 2024/2222 OJ OJ L 10.10.2024	Summary

2022 discharge: General budget of the EU - European Parliament

2023/2130(DEC) - 10/10/2024 - Final act

PURPOSE: to grant discharge to the European Parliament for the financial year 2022.

NON-LEGISLATIVE ACT: Decision (EU) 2024/2222 of the European Parliament on discharge in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2022, Section I – European Parliament.

CONTENT: with the present decision, the European Parliament grants discharge to its President for the implementation of its budget for the financial year 2022.

This decision is in line with the European Parliament's resolution adopted on 11 April 2024 and comprises a series of observations that form an integral part of the discharge decision (please refer to the summary dated 11 April 2024).

2022 was a year of transition for the Union institutions, including Parliament, measures introduced as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic were discontinued by June 2022. Members welcomed the efforts of all DGs and the Secretary-General to put the necessary tools in place to resume parliamentary work so that it functions in the same way as it did before the COVID-19 pandemic. The also noted that the COVID-19 pandemic is estimated to have generated a moderate surplus of EUR 16 417 325 and that is necessary to reinforce other budget lines by a total of EUR 7 549 000.

Moreover, Parliament’s administration put considerable effort into the implementation of the budget with a view to meeting urgent needs arising from the crisis situation due to the Russian war of aggression against Ukraine and the exceptionally high level of inflation.

Amongst Parliaments main observations, the latter noted that Parliament's final appropriations for 2022 totalled **EUR 2 161 million**, or 19.55 % of Heading 7 of the Multiannual Financial Framework set aside for the 2022 administrative expenditure of the Union institutions as a whole, representing a 4.76 % increase compared to the 2021 budget.

The total revenue entered in the accounts as of 31 December 2022 was EUR 250 473 772 (compared to EUR 215 332 108 in 2021). Assigned revenue made available in 2022 amounted to EUR 61 267 620 (compared to EUR 37 150 962 in 2021).

2022 discharge: General budget of the EU - European Parliament

2023/2130(DEC) - 01/03/2024 - Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading

The Committee on Budgetary Control adopted the report by Andrey NOVAKOV (EPP, BG) on discharge in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2022, Section I – European Parliament.

The committee called on the European Parliament to **grant its President discharge** in respect of the implementation of the budget of the European Parliament for the financial year 2022.

Parliament's budgetary and financial management

Members noted that Parliament's final appropriations for 2022 totalled **EUR 2 161 million**, or 19.55 % of Heading 7 of the Multiannual Financial Framework set aside for the 2022 administrative expenditure of the Union institutions as a whole, representing **a 4.76 % increase** compared to the 2021 budget.

The total revenue entered in the accounts as of 31 December 2022 was EUR 250 473 772 (compared to EUR 215 332 108 in 2021); notes that assigned revenue made available in 2022 amounted to EUR 61 267 620 (compared to EUR 37 150 962 in 2021).

Five chapters accounted for 76.5 % of total commitments: Chapter 10 'Members of the institution'; Chapter 12 'Officials and temporary staff'; Chapter 14 'Other staff and external services'; Chapter 20 'Buildings and associated costs'; and Chapter 42 'Expenditure relating to parliamentary assistance'.

Members noted that the COVID-19 pandemic is estimated to have generated a moderate surplus of EUR 16 417 325 and that is necessary to reinforce other budget lines by a total of EUR 7 549 000.

2022 was a year of transition for the Union institutions, including Parliament, measures introduced as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic were discontinued by June 2022. Members welcomed the efforts of all DGs and the Secretary-General to put the necessary tools in place to resume parliamentary work so that it functions in the same way as it did before the COVID-19 pandemic.

Parliament's administration has put considerable effort into the implementation of the budget with a view to meeting urgent needs arising from the crisis situation due to the Russian war of aggression against Ukraine and the exceptionally high level of inflation.

The final appropriations for the various Directorates-General in 2022 were as follows:

- **Directorate-General for the Presidency**: EUR 1 275 565, i.e. 1% of Parliament's budget; a total amount of EUR 1 169 055.78 was committed;

- **Directorate-General for Communication**: EUR 121 235 650, i.e. 5.6% of Parliament's budget; a total amount of EUR 121 146 177 was committed;

- **Directorate-General for Personnel**: EUR 1 090 141 584, i.e. 50.4% of Parliament's budget; a total amount of EUR 1 087 939 413 was committed;

- **Directorate-General for Infrastructure and Logistics**: EUR 271 191 093, representing 12.5% of Parliament's budget; a total of EUR 269 189 287 was committed;

- **Directorate-General for Translation**: EUR 17 105 500, representing 0.8% of Parliament's budget; a total of EUR 16 834 967 has been committed;

- **Directorate-General for Logistics and Interpretation for Conferences**: EUR 79 569 347, representing 3.7% of Parliament's budget; a total of EUR 79 282 501 was committed;

- **Directorate-General for Finance**: EUR 396 723 134, representing 18.4% of Parliament's budget; a total of EUR 395 647 243 was committed;

- **Directorate-General for Innovation and Technological Support**: EUR 134 808 679, representing 6.2% of Parliament's budget; a total of EUR 134 439 573 was committed;

- **Directorate-General for Security and Protection**: EUR 29 507 334, representing 1.4% of Parliament's budget; a total of EUR 28 370 796 was committed.

Overall, Members welcomed the high use of appropriations.

Horizontal issues

Harassment

Members welcomed Parliament's zero tolerance policy on harassment and the awareness-raising campaigns carried out. In 2022, 56 MEPs participated in the training session. The report noted that members of staff and APAs had participated in anti-harassment training courses.

Whistleblowers

It is recalled that staff members of the Union institutions have an obligation to report any information pointing to corruption, fraud and other serious irregularities that they discover in the line of duty. Parliament recorded one case of whistleblowing in 2022.

Members welcomed the ongoing work in 2022 to update the Internal Rules Implementing Article 22(c) of the Staff Regulations of 4 December 2015 with more comprehensive and detailed internal rules. They welcome that a Bureau decision regarding the internal rules on whistleblowing was adopted on 20 November 2023 and applies from 1 December 2023, including provisions for the protection of whistleblowers, transmission of evidence to OLAF and, if appropriate, EPPO as well as deadlines for the handling of complaints.

Voluntary Pension Fund (VPF)

The actuarial deficit of the Voluntary Pension Fund (VPF) on 31 December 2021 amounted to EUR 379 million (compared to EUR 371.4 million on 31 December 2020). Members welcomes the amendments made by Parliament's Bureau to Article 76 of the IMMS in relation to the Additional (Voluntary) Pension Scheme, which entered into force on 1 July 2023, aiming to reduce future pension obligations from EUR 362.7 million to an estimated EUR 139 million, and the actuarial deficit of the fund from EUR 310 million to an estimated EUR 86 million. They welcomed the latest decisions taken by the Bureau.

The report asked the administration and the Bureau to explore every legal option that would guarantee that no taxpayer money is used for any future bail-out of the VPF's investment portfolio.

European political parties and European political foundations

In 2022, the Authority gave European political parties and European political foundations the right to be heard as well as the opportunity for corrective measures in 9 cases. The relevant corrective measures were immediately implemented by the European political parties and foundations concerned in all these cases.

The report noted with concern that the Authority reports that it is facing constrained human resources. It highlights that this issue is expected to become more pressing due to the evolving challenges in the run-up to the 2024 European elections, including, in particular ,the need to protect democratic integrity against novel forms of foreign interference.

2022 discharge: General budget of the EU - European Parliament

2023/2130(DEC) - 11/04/2024 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament decided by 527 votes to 73, with 11 abstentions, to grant its President discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the European Parliament for the financial year 2022.

In its resolution adopted by 499 votes to 69, with 47 abstentions, Parliament made the following observations:

Parliament's budgetary and financial management

Members noted that Parliament's final appropriations for 2022 totalled **EUR 2 161 million**, or 19.55 % of Heading 7 of the Multiannual Financial Framework set aside for the 2022 administrative expenditure of the Union institutions as a whole, representing a **4.76 % increase** compared to the 2021 budget.

The total revenue entered in the accounts as of 31 December 2022 was EUR 250 473 772 (compared to EUR 215 332 108 in 2021). Assigned revenue made available in 2022 amounted to EUR 61 267 620 (compared to EUR 37 150 962 in 2021).

Five chapters accounted for 76.5 % of total commitments: Chapter 10 'Members of the institution'; Chapter 12 'Officials and temporary staff'; Chapter 14 'Other staff and external services'; Chapter 20 'Buildings and associated costs'; and Chapter 42 'Expenditure relating to parliamentary assistance'.

Members noted that the COVID-19 pandemic is estimated to have generated a moderate surplus of EUR 16 417 325 and that is necessary to reinforce other budget lines by a total of EUR 7 549 000.

2022 was a year of transition for the Union institutions, including Parliament, measures introduced as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic were discontinued by June 2022. Members welcomed the efforts of all DGs and the Secretary-General to put the necessary tools in place to resume parliamentary work so that it functions in the same way as it did before the COVID-19 pandemic.

Parliament's administration has put considerable effort into the implementation of the budget with a view to meeting urgent needs arising from the crisis situation due to the Russian war of aggression against Ukraine and the exceptionally high level of inflation.

Presidency, Communication

Parliament welcomed the swift action taken by Parliament following the cases of alleged corruption involving Members and officials in December 2022 and the 14-point action plan proposed by the President. It welcomed the increased use of the transparency register as an information and reference tool for interest representation activities at EU level. It called for rigorous standards of transparency and access to the EU institutions for all entities in the transparency register. It reiterated its concern at the large-scale disinformation campaigns and foreign interference targeting the EU, particularly on the part of Russia. There is a need for an enhanced security culture within Parliament.

DG COMM is invited to continue to develop and implement effective strategies to combat disinformation and manipulation of information, particularly in an electoral context.

Personnel

Members recalled that, on 13 January 2020, the Bureau approved new and more ambitious targets for gender balance at the senior and middle management levels of Parliament’s administration to be achieved by 2024, meaning that women should hold 50% of head of units posts, 50% of director posts and 40% of director-general posts. Members praised the work carried out by DG PERS with accredited parliamentary assistants (APAs), who have seen the recognition of their work gradually increase over the years. They welcomed the progress made in revising the rules governing the employment of accredited parliamentary assistants. The minimum budgetary allocation for parliamentary assistance should be set at a minimum of 35%.

Infrastructure and logistics

Parliament acknowledged that Parliament’s ‘Building Strategy beyond 2019’ provides a coherent framework for decisions and contributes to consolidating Parliament’s real estate portfolio while adapting facilities to the evolution of meeting patterns, going local and closer to citizens through the gradual roll-out of Europa Experience Centres, enhancing security for Parliament’s buildings, and achieving the interconnection of its central buildings .The majority of the policies and actions referred to in the current Building Strategy are either completed or well under way.

Members also welcomed Parliament's efforts to encourage staff to use sustainable means of transport for commuting by providing an increasing number of conventional and electric bicycles free of charge and by reimbursing part of the cost of public transport tickets in exchange for restricted access to car parks.

Interpretation, translation

Parliament welcomed DG TRAD's commitment to providing high-quality language services on time. It noted that DG TRAD ensures that Parliament's procedural content is available in the 24 official and working languages of the Union. It praised the outstanding work done by the interpreters in 2022, which ensured that, as far as possible, interpretation of the debates could be provided in all the official and working languages of the Union.

Innovation and Technological Support

Parliament welcomed the fact that DG ITEC partners with client Directorates-General to deliver a user-centred, secure, hybrid and data driven working environment for Members and staff. It noted with satisfaction its promotion of the sustainable and responsible deployment of innovative technologies such as artificial intelligence and data analytics to enhance the decision-making capabilities of Parliament’s services. Parliament’s cyber-defence activities were strongly marked by a constantly growing cyber threat. Members welcomed the creation of the Directorate for Cybersecurity in 2022 and urged Parliament to maintain its efforts and increase its investment in cybersecurity. They welcomed that DG ITEC offered the possibility to check IT equipment for evidence of spyware such as PEGASUS.

Harassment

Members welcomed Parliament’s zero tolerance policy on harassment and the awareness-raising campaigns carried out. In 2022, 56 Members participated in the training session. The resolution noted that members of staff and APAs had participated in anti-harassment training courses.

Lastly, Parliament commented on whistleblowers, the voluntary pension fund, and European political parties and foundations. It welcomed the essential role played by the Authority which, in complete independence and in close collaboration with Parliament, ensures that European political parties and foundations respect the legal framework, guarantee transparency for citizens and contribute to the integrity of Parliament's elections.