

Basic information	
2024/2020(DEC)	Procedure completed
DEC - Discharge procedure	
2023 discharge: General budget of the EU - European Parliament	
Subject	
8.70.03.13 2023 discharge	

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	CONT Budgetary Control	HOHLMEIER Monika (EPP)	18/09/2024
		Shadow rapporteur LUPO Giuseppe (S&D) DEUTSCH Tamás (PfE) ERIXON Dick (ECR) GERBRANDY Gerben-Jan (Renew) BOESELAGER Damian (Greens/EFA) SJÖSTEDT Jonas (The Left) JUNGBLUTH Alexander (ESN)	
Committee for opinion		Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
AFET Foreign Affairs		The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
SEDE Security and Defence		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, Climate and Food Safety	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
SANT	Public Health	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	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
LIBE	Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
AFCO	Constitutional Affairs	SIMON Sven (EPP)	12/09/2024
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
25/06/2024	Non-legislative basic document published	COM(2024)0272 	
17/09/2024	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
18/03/2025	Vote in committee		
11/04/2025	Committee report tabled for plenary	A10-0062/2025	
06/05/2025	Debate in Parliament		
07/05/2025	Decision by Parliament	T10-0078/2025	Summary
07/05/2025	Results of vote in Parliament		
08/10/2025	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2024/2020(DEC)
Procedure type	DEC - Discharge procedure
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	CONT/10/00539

Documentation gateway				
European Parliament				
Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE764.999	17/12/2024	
Committee opinion	AFCO	PE766.589	29/01/2025	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE768.125	05/02/2025	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A10-0062/2025	11/04/2025	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T10-0078/2025	07/05/2025	Summary
Council of the EU				
Document type	Reference	Date	Summary	

Supplementary non-legislative basic document	05754/2025	05/02/2025	
European Commission			
Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Non-legislative basic document	COM(2024)0272 	25/06/2024	
Other institutions and bodies			
Institution/body	Document type	Reference	Date
CofA	Court of Auditors: opinion, report	N10-0020/2024 OJ OJ L 10.10.2024	10/10/2024

Final act
Budget 2025/1595 OJ OJ L 08.10.2025

2023 discharge: General budget of the EU - European Parliament

2024/2020(DEC) - 07/05/2025 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 419 votes to 113, with 88 abstentions, a resolution on the 2023 and 2024 Commission reports on Serbia.

Commitment to EU accession

Parliament noted Serbia's stated commitment to making EU membership its strategic objective and its ambition to fully align with the EU acquis by the end of 2026. It called on Serbia to **swiftly and decisively implement key reforms** to ensure that this highly ambitious commitment is seen as realistic. Serbia must demonstrate seriously and categorically that it is strategically oriented towards the EU.

Members reaffirmed the **strategic importance** of the Western Balkans in the current geopolitical context and for the security and stability of the European Union as a whole. They condemned Serbia's attempts to establish a sphere of influence that undermines the sovereignty of neighbouring countries.

While noting Serbia's good level of preparation in terms of macroeconomic stability and budgetary discipline, Parliament noted with concern that, in general, **progress** in meeting the EU membership benchmarks across all negotiating chapters **has been limited** or non-existent, with gaps in particular in critical areas such as the rule of law, media freedom, public administration reform and alignment with EU policies, in particular EU foreign policy.

Due to Serbia's close relations with Russia, Serbia remains a notable exception in the Western Balkans when it comes to alignment with the CFSP. Serbia is urged to reverse this trend and take positive steps towards full alignment. In this context, Members regretted the continued decline in public support for EU membership in Serbia and the growing support for Vladimir Putin's regime, the result of long-standing anti-European and pro-Russian rhetoric from government-controlled media and some state officials.

Democracy and the rule of law

Parliament noted difficulties in ensuring the **independence of the judiciary**, particularly due to the lack of safeguards to prevent political interference in judicial appointments. Progress in the **fight against corruption** has been limited, despite the adoption of a new anti-corruption strategy for the period 2024-2028, and after several years, results have not yet been achieved in cases in which there is significant public interest. The level of corruption in Serbia is a significant obstacle to its accession to the European Union.

Members welcomed the more pluralistic composition of the new parliament, but noted the frequent early elections, constant campaigning, long delays in forming governments, and the disruption of the national parliament's work. They are also concerned about the growing role of **foreign information manipulation and interference**, foreign cyber operations, and interference in democratic election processes in Serbia. The paramount importance of ensuring the independence of key institutions is emphasised.

Human rights

Parliament expressed its deep concern about the systemic problems highlighted by the **student protests** and various other demonstrations in Serbia. It deplored (i) the continued violence against students, (ii) the misuse of personal data from public registers for the purpose of reprisals against peaceful protesters, (iii) the increasing political and financial pressure on primary and secondary school teachers, (iv) the large-scale illegal surveillance practices using spyware against activists, journalists and members of civil society, (v) the political pressure on universities and other research institutions, (vi) the deterioration of media freedom in Serbia, and (vii) the increasing difficulties faced by civil society organisations.

Members called on Serbia to **combat disinformation**, including manipulative anti-European narratives, and, in particular, to end its own public disinformation campaigns. They called on the Serbian authorities to combat hybrid threats and to fully align themselves with the Council's decision to suspend the broadcasting activities of Sputnik and RT.

Parliament noted the adoption of the National Equality Strategy and the Strategy for the Prevention and Protection against Discrimination and called for their full implementation and further alignment with European standards. The Serbian authorities must adopt concrete measures to uphold and strengthen respect for children's rights. The need for a strong commitment to protecting the rights of national minorities is also underlined.

Reconciliation and good neighbourly relations

Parliament stressed that Serbia must develop good neighbourly relations, implement bilateral agreements, and resolve outstanding bilateral issues with its neighbours. It called for historical reconciliation and the elimination of past discrimination and prejudice and urged Serbia to intensify its reconciliation efforts and seek solutions to past disputes, including those related to missing persons, which number 1782 in Croatia, 7608 in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and 1595 in Kosovo.

Members reiterated the importance of constructive engagement by the authorities of both Serbia and Kosovo in order to reach a comprehensive and legally binding normalisation agreement, based on mutual recognition, in accordance with international law.

Lastly, Serbia is invited to redouble its efforts to transpose the relevant acquis in the field of environment and climate and to ensure the proper application of environmental protection standards.