Basic information

2024/2030(DEC) DEC - Discharge procedure	Procedure completed
Discharge 2023: Agencies **Subject** 8.70.03.13 2023 discharge	

Key players

European Parliament	**Committee responsible**	**Rapporteur**	**Appointed**
	CONT Budgetary Control	MARQUARDT Erik (Greens /EFA)	23/09/2024
		Shadow rapporteur GOTINK Dirk (EPP) MAIJ Marit (S&D) DEUTSCH Tamás (PfE) BRUDZIŃSKI Joachim Stanisław (ECR) BOYER Gilles (Renew) SJÖSTEDT Jonas (The Left) JUNGBLUTH Alexander (ESN)	

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		
08/04/2025	Vote in committee		
14/04/2025	Committee report tabled for plenary	A10-0065/2025	
06/05/2025	Debate in Parliament		

07/05/2025	Decision by Parliament	T10-0088/2025	Summary
07/05/2025	Results of vote in Parliament		
07/05/2025	Report referred back to committee		
24/09/2025	Vote in committee		
29/09/2025	Committee report tabled for plenary	A10-0169/2025	
22/10/2025	Decision by Parliament	T10-0246/2025	Summary
22/10/2025	Results of vote in Parliament		
13/01/2026	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2024/2030(DEC)
Procedure type	DEC - Discharge procedure
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	CONT/10/02900 CONT/10/00682

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE765.000	16/01/2025	
Committee opinion	EMPL	PE765.075	28/01/2025	
Committee opinion	TRAN	PE765.327	29/01/2025	
Committee opinion	PECH	PE765.281	30/01/2025	
Committee opinion	CULT	PE765.305	05/02/2025	
Committee opinion	LIBE	PE765.284	13/02/2025	
Committee opinion	FEMM	PE765.344	21/02/2025	
Committee opinion	ENVI	PE764.979	27/02/2025	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE770.046	27/02/2025	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A10-0065/2025	14/04/2025	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T10-0088/2025	07/05/2025	Summary
Committee draft report		PE774.259	28/07/2025	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE776.737	09/09/2025	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A10-0169/2025	29/09/2025	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T10-0246/2025	22/10/2025	Summary

Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Supplementary non-legislative basic document	05755/2025	03/02/2025	

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	Summary
CofA	Court of Auditors: opinion, report	N10-0034/2024 OJ OJ C 24.10.2024	24/10/2024	
EU	Follow-up document	32026B0063 OJ OJ L 13.01.2026	13/01/2026	
EU	Follow-up document	52026BP0064 OJ OJ L 13.01.2026	13/01/2026	

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
MILLÁN MON Francisco José	Shadow rapporteur for opinion	PECH	03/12/2024	EFCA - Agencia Europea de Control de Pesca
TOMC Romana	Rapporteur for opinion	EMPL	17/10/2024	EU-OSHA, Cedefop, ELA, ETF, Eurofound

Final act

Budget 2026/0062
OJ OJ L 13.01.2026

Discharge 2023: Agencies

2024/2030(DEC) - 22/10/2025 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament decided to **grant discharge** to the Executive Director of the European Union Agency for Asylum in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2023 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 2023 were reliable and that the underlying transactions were legal and regular, Parliament adopted, by 476 votes to 99, with 72 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.

It should be recalled that on 7 May 2025, Parliament decided to postpone the decision on the 2023 discharge of the European Union Agency for Asylum (EUAA). The fact that the discharge was postponed earlier and only granted at this plenary suggests that the Parliament wished to ensure **further scrutiny** of the Agency's financial and operational management before giving its approval.

The outcome of the investigation of the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF)

Parliament took note that OLAF issued disciplinary and administrative recommendations following the investigation. It observed that, concerning the disciplinary recommendations, the Management Board decided, as a follow-up, not to open disciplinary proceedings and instead issued written recommendations with a warning and requested to the Executive Director concrete proposals by way of corrective actions, and a timetable for their implementation as soon as possible.

Parliament regretted that the Management Board has decided after intense deliberations **not to implement OLAF's disciplinary recommendations**, including the initiation of disciplinary proceedings against the Executive Director of the Agency or any other staff in the Agency, despite OLAF's significant findings, which appear to be systematic and which undermine trust in the Agency's leadership. It emphasised that this decision raises questions about the Board's commitment to accountability and responsibility. Parliament will remain particularly attentive to the corrective actions undertaken and called on the Agency to ensure transparent reporting to Parliament by, *inter alia*, sharing the minutes of Management Board deliberations with Parliament, to strengthen parliamentary oversight.

Staffing and mismanagement

Parliament strongly deplored the weaknesses in the management of conflicts of interest within the Agency, particularly the flawed handling of complaints by the Management Board against decisions made by the Executive Director. The Agency should promptly inform the discharge authority of the corrective actions and organisational changes put in place.

The resolution also noted with concern the repeated failures in governance, including the inability of the Management Board to exercise timely and effective oversight. Parliament regrets that several of the irregularities could have been prevented with better internal controls and proactive engagement from the Management Board.

Furthermore, the resolution deplored the issues of **poor administration**, especially in the area of human resources, with serious irregularities, particularly in appointment and selection procedures. The Agency is called on to:

- fully align its recruitment processes with the applicable rules, and insisted on the adoption of strict, transparent, and merit-based procedures, accompanied by enforceable guidelines and subject to close oversight by the discharge authority;

- establish an **independent internal ethics function** and have a robust whistle-blower protection in place;

Parliament commended the Agency's staff for their dedication and commitment in executing their tasks despite challenging circumstances. It urged the Management Board and the Executive Director to ensure that the Agency is a safe and supportive workplace that encouraged open communication and empowers individuals to speak up without fear of retaliation.

Discharge 2023: Agencies

2024/2030(DEC) - 07/05/2025 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament decided to **grant discharge** for the implementation of the budget of all agencies for the financial year 2023, with the exception of the EU Asylum Agency, for which discharge has been postponed.

The resolution adopted by Parliament by 503 votes to 121, with 26 abstentions, covers 31 of the 33 decentralised agencies and two of the other four bodies (EIT – European Institute of Innovation and Technology, and ESA – Supply Agency) and includes, for each body, the cross-cutting observations accompanying the discharge decisions.

Members stressed that the Union's decentralised agencies and the Euratom Supply Agency should focus on missions with **clear European added value** and that the organisation of these tasks should be optimised to **avoid overlaps**, in the interest of EU taxpayers. Strengthening the democratic legitimacy of the Union's institutions requires increased **transparency and accountability**, as well as **performance-based budgeting** and sound human resources management.

The resolution recalled that according to the 'common approach' agreed between the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission, each EU agency should be **evaluated every five years**. Parliament called on the Commission to explore **further synergies** and consolidation of activities, as well as the possibility of merging agencies with complementary activities, in order to ensure cost-effectiveness and streamline agency functions, including possible mandate reviews in cases of inefficiencies or duplication.

Members stressed the need for **sufficient resources** for agencies to be able to carry out the new tasks assigned to them under the new legislation. It is also important for agencies to strengthen their presence in the media, on the internet, and on social media.

Budgetary and financial management

Parliament noted that the total final revenue for 2023 for the 33 EU agencies amounted to **EUR 3.741.954.189** (compared to EUR 3.605.018.178 in 2022). The increase in revenue between 2022 and 2023 was significant in some agencies, by 54.59% for the EFA, 20.86% for Eurojust, 19.65% for Frontex and 19.15% for ACER.

Members stressed the need for agencies **to improve their financial reporting and internal control mechanisms** . They asked agencies to provide a detailed breakdown of their spending each year, including disaggregated data on external contracts, consultancy services, and subcontractors. They stressed the need for real-time digital reporting tools that improve financial oversight and accountability to the European Parliament and the public.

Audit results

Parliament noted the conclusion that the Court's audit recorded similar results to those of the previous year (2022). According to the Court's report, common issues identified across agencies were: (i) weaknesses in **public procurement**, which remained the main source of irregular payments; (ii) budget management issues, such as excessive carry-overs and late payments; and (iii) weaknesses in internal control, particularly in ensuring compliance with financial regulations and procedural guidelines.

Although an unqualified opinion was issued on the legality and regularity of the payments underlying the accounts for all agencies, exceptions were identified for four agencies: the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT), the European Labour Authority (ELA), the European Union Agency for Cybersecurity (ENISA) and the European Union Agency for the operational management of large-scale IT systems in the area of freedom, security and justice (eu-LISA).

Governance

Parliament acknowledged the progress made by EU agencies in improving financial management and governance structures, while recognising the need to further improve efficiency and accountability. It highlighted the **crucial role of management boards**, which should be composed of representatives of Member States, two representatives of the Commission, one Member of Parliament and a fairly limited number of stakeholders.

It is noted that some agencies, such as Eurofound, Cedefop, and EU-OSHA, have a tripartite structure that includes employers and trade unions, which offers advantages but makes decision-making more complex. According to the evaluation, alternative governance models allow for more effective involvement of social partners. Members highlighted the increased potential for savings and synergies in the activities of these agencies, as well as the need for rigorous financial oversight of EU agencies to **ensure cost-effectiveness** and prevent the misuse of public funds.

Regarding **Frontex**, although its regulation is considered fit for purpose, challenges persist in its governance and internal processes. Efforts are acknowledged, including a new structure adopted at the end of 2023, but **simplifications** are still needed, particularly to reduce unnecessary burdens on national authorities.

Parliament called on Frontex to continue to strengthen transparency, cooperate fully in investigations and implement measures ensuring the protection of fundamental rights in all its activities. It also stressed the importance of a **balance between border security and respect for fundamental rights**, with continuous training for Frontex officers on these rights.

It should be noted that Members **postponed granting discharge to the European Union Asylum Agency** due to ‘very concerning conclusions’ from an investigation by the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) into nepotism and other issues affecting the agency's financial management.