



Basic information	
<b>2021/2122(DEC)</b> DEC - Discharge procedure 2020 discharge: European Asylum Support Office (EASO) <b>Subject</b> 8.70.03.10 2020 discharge	Procedure completed

Key players				
European Parliament	<b>Committee responsible</b>		<b>Rapporteur</b>	<b>Appointed</b>
	<div style="border: 1px solid red; padding: 2px;">CONT</div> Budgetary Control			
			Shadow rapporteur STRUGARIU Ramona (Renew) CZARNECKI Ryszard (ECR) KUHS Joachim (ID)	
	<b>Committee for opinion</b>		<b>Rapporteur for opinion</b>	<b>Appointed</b>
<div style="border: 1px solid red; padding: 2px;">LIBE</div> Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs		STRUGARIU Ramona (Renew)	26/10/2021	
European Commission	<b>Commission DG</b>		<b>Commissioner</b>	
	Budget		HAHN Johannes	

Key events			
Date	Event	Reference	Summary
30/06/2021	Non-legislative basic document published	<a href="#">COM(2021)0381</a> 	
14/09/2021	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
31/03/2022	Vote in committee		
07/04/2022	Committee report tabled for plenary	<a href="#">A9-0107/2022</a>	
04/05/2022	Decision by Parliament	<a href="#">T9-0184/2022</a>	<a href="#">Summary</a>
04/05/2022	Debate in Parliament	<a href="#">CRE link</a>	
05/10/2022	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2021/2122(DEC)
Procedure type	DEC - Discharge procedure
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	CONT/9/06757

Documentation gateway				
<b>European Parliament</b>				
Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		<a href="#">PE698.962</a>	14/01/2022	
Amendments tabled in committee		<a href="#">PE704.533</a>	18/01/2022	
Committee opinion	<a href="#">LIBE</a>	<a href="#">PE702.928</a>	17/02/2022	
Amendments tabled in committee		<a href="#">PE704.723</a>	02/03/2022	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		<a href="#">A9-0107/2022</a>	07/04/2022	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		<a href="#">T9-0184/2022</a>	04/05/2022	<a href="#">Summary</a>
<b>Council of the EU</b>				
Document type	Reference	Date	Summary	
Supplementary non-legislative basic document	<a href="#">06003/2022</a>	16/02/2022		
<b>European Commission</b>				
Document type	Reference	Date	Summary	
Non-legislative basic document	<a href="#">COM(2021)0381</a> 	30/06/2021		
<b>Other institutions and bodies</b>				
Institution/body	Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
CofA	Court of Auditors: opinion, report	<a href="#">N9-0044/2022</a> <a href="#">OJ C 439 29.10.2021, p. 0003</a>	29/10/2021	

Final act
Budget 2022/1734 <a href="#">OJ L 258 05.10.2022, p. 0226</a>

## 2020 discharge: European Asylum Support Office (EASO)

2021/2122(DEC) - 04/05/2022 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament decided to **grant discharge** to the Executive Director of the European Asylum Support Office in respect of the implementation of the Office's budget for the financial year 2020 and to approve the closure of the accounts for that year.

Parliament noted with appreciation that after four years in a row, the reasons for qualifying the opinion on expenditure underlying the accounts have been solved by the Office.

Noting that the Court of Auditors stated that it had obtained reasonable assurance that the Institute's annual accounts for the financial year 2020 were reliable and that the underlying transactions were legal and regular, Parliament adopted, by 503 votes to 85 with 53 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.

#### Office's financial statements

The final budget of the Office for the financial year 2020 was EUR 130 986 611, representing an increase of 27.25 % compared to 2019. The increase mostly concerns an increase in expenditure related to operational support.

#### ***Budgetary and financial management***

The budget monitoring efforts during the financial year 2020 resulted in a budget implementation rate of 95.14 %, at approximately the same level as 2019 (95.22 %). Parliament noted with concern that the payment appropriations execution rate was at 80.91 %, which the Court deems as low, representing a decrease of 8.95 % compared to the previous year (89.86 %). It also noted with concern the Court's conclusion that the carry-overs of committed appropriations for operating expenditure were high, at 33.8 %, and that the cancellation rate of budget appropriations carried over from 2019 to 2020 was also high, at 19 %. The Office should improve its budget planning and implementation cycles.

Moreover, effective policies have been established for managing rented premises and related services which has been welcomed by Parliament.

#### ***Other comments***

Parliament also made a series of observations concerning performance, staff policy, public procurement and Covid-19.

In particular, it noted that:

- the Office reported that it executed a total of 5 313 payments in 2020, compared to 9 871 payments in 2019, with 334 (6.29 %) of the payments executed more than 30 days after receipt of the invoice, compared to 1 312 (13.29 %) in 2019;
- about 13 600 applications for asylum were lodged by unaccompanied minors in the Member States. Parliament stressed the importance of providing a specific reception system for minors that protects them;
- the Office achieved or surpassed targets for a majority of key performance indicators, despite the difficulties faced because of the Covid-19 pandemic;
- unfortunately, the Office continued to face difficulties in fulfilling certain tasks as a result of its outdated mandate, especially in terms of the legal framework and mechanisms for deployment of asylum support teams providing the support required by the Member States;
- it signed a new operational support plan with Spain in 2020, bringing the total number of countries assisted by the Office to eight;
- on 31 December 2020, the establishment plan was 78.96 % executed, with 289 temporary agents appointed out of 366 temporary agents authorised under the Union budget (compared to 284 authorised posts in 2019) and a further 17 posts offered or accepted. While progress has been made in attracting new staff, the low execution rate meant that for a fourth consecutive year in a row the Office did not succeed in achieving its establishment plan targets;
- gender balance is worrying at senior management level with 83.3 % men and 16.7 % women;
- the Office launched 65 procedures in 2020, compared to 48 in 2019, of which a majority negotiated procedures with one candidate (40 %) and open calls (26.15 %);
- lastly, a Covid-19 response team was established and support was given to Member States to address the challenges arising from the pandemic.