

# Procedure file

Basic information		
DEC - Discharge procedure	<a href="#">2000/2094(DEC)</a>	Procedure completed
1998 discharge: European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions EFILWC budget (Dublin)		
Subject 8.70.03.07 Previous discharges		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	<b>CONT</b> Budgetary Control	V/ALE <a href="#">RÜHLE Heide</a>	13/10/1999

Key events			
23/07/1999	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
22/12/1999	Non-legislative basic document published	N5-0150/2000	
22/03/2000	Vote in committee		Summary
22/03/2000	Committee report tabled for plenary	<a href="#">A5-0089/2000</a>	
13/04/2000	Decision by Parliament	<a href="#">T5-0152/2000</a>	Summary
13/04/2000	End of procedure in Parliament		
27/07/2000	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2000/2094(DEC)
Procedure type	DEC - Discharge procedure
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 100
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	CONT/4/10705

Documentation gateway				
Non-legislative basic document		<a href="#">N5-0150/2000</a> <a href="#">OJ C 372 22.12.1999, p. 0038-0043</a>	22/12/1999	CofA

Supplementary non-legislative basic document	<a href="#">06240/2000</a>	17/02/2000	CSL	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading	<a href="#">A5-0089/2000</a> <a href="#">OJ C 040 07.02.2001, p. 0006</a>	22/03/2000	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading	<a href="#">T5-0152/2000</a> <a href="#">OJ C 040 07.02.2001, p. 0147-0384</a>	13/04/2000	EP	Summary

#### Final act

[Decision 2000/466](#)  
[OJ L 191 27.07.2000, p. 0003](#)

## 1998 discharge: European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions EFILWC budget (Dublin)

The committee adopted the report by Heide RÜHLE (Greens/EFA, D) on granting discharge in respect of the financial management of various EU institutions and decentralised agencies for 1998. The committee decided to recommend that the decision on discharge be postponed in two cases and that discharge be granted in the other five cases. As regards the 6th, 7th and 8th European Development Funds, the committee recommended postponing discharge because of instances of fraudulent use of Community funds, particularly in Ivory Coast, Tanzania and Togo, and called on the Commission to launch immediate disciplinary action against officials suspected of having committed or covered up such offences. While acknowledging that the new Commission had inherited considerable problems from its predecessor which needed to be solved as a matter of priority, the committee nevertheless expressed concern that Parliament had not been granted full access to all documents, including cases under investigation. The Commission was invited to ensure that staff with the appropriate qualifications and experience were assigned to the management of projects so as to combat corruption more effectively. As far as the Economic and Social Committee (EcoSoc) was concerned, the report recommended that discharge be postponed until it had received the conclusions of an inquiry into the serious irregularities that had been noted in the Court of Auditors' Annual Report for 1996. In order to grant discharge for 1996, Parliament had wanted the Community's Anti-Fraud Unit to conduct a full inquiry. That condition had still not been met at the time of the 1997 discharge, which Parliament again decided to postpone. The report regretted that EcoSoc had only referred the matter to OLAF (the Community's Anti-Fraud Office) in January 2000 and decided to postpone discharge for 1998 pending the conclusions of the OLAF inquiry. The committee recommended granting discharge in respect of the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions (Dublin) and the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (Thessaloniki), the Community's two oldest decentralised agencies. The committee also recommended that discharge be granted for 1998 in respect of the Court of Justice, the Court of Auditors and the Committee of the Regions.

## 1998 discharge: European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions EFILWC budget (Dublin)

The European Parliament adopted its decision granting discharge to the Administrative Board of the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions in respect of the implementation of its budget for the 1998 financial year. Parliament's Rapporteur was Ms. Heide RÜHLE (Green/EFA, D). The Parliament notes that its demands for the Commission to reform its structure and financial management systems and the consequent change in the role of the Directorate-General for Financial Control will have a direct bearing on the Foundation and will require the recasting of the Financial Regulations and the introduction of activity-based budgeting. The Parliament expresses its disappointment that the Foundation has not fully implemented the SINCOM2 accounting system. It calls on the Commission to extend the system to encompass activity-based management for Agencies, including monitoring, auditing or evaluation of personnel, missions, documents and inventory, on the lines of the Integrated Resources Management System (IRMS). It encourages the Foundation to further reduce its reliance on imprest accounts for payments and welcomes the fact that usage has decreased considerably since 1997 and welcomes the fact that the Foundation has managed to reduce the cost of mission expenses through the use of strict guidelines, whereby low-cost tickets are used. The Court of Auditors is called upon to systematically follow up the decisions of the discharge authority and to produce a comprehensive analysis of the audits of all Agencies. The EP calls on the Foundation and the Court of Auditors to reduce the duration of the contradictory procedure to ensure that the annual report can be presented to Parliament before 15 July of the year following the financial year in question. Parliament welcomes the Foundation's preparation of its next four-year programme for 2001-2004, following the launch of an evaluation process in spring 1999, and notes with interest the progress in training staff and dedicating resources to monitoring and evaluating exercises. It calls on the Foundation to present to Parliament the results of its evaluation exercise and new strategy and action plan before 31/12/2000.?