













Procedure file

Basic information		
DEC - Discharge procedure	2019/2063(DEC)	Procedure completed
2018 discharge: EU general budget, European Data Protection Supervisor		
Subject 8.70.03.08 2018 discharge		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	 Budgetary Control	 ZDECHOVSKÝ Tomáš	04/09/2019
		Shadow rapporteur	
		 GARCÍA MUÑOZ Isabel	
		 GHINEA Cristian	
		 PEKSA Mikuláš	
		 KUHS Joachim	
		 FITTO Raffaele	
		 FLANAGAN Luke Ming	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	 Legal Affairs	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
	 Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs		06/11/2019
		 METSOLA Roberta	
European Commission	Commission DG Budget	Commissioner OETTINGER Günther	

Key events			
27/06/2019	Non-legislative basic document published	COM(2019)0316	
18/09/2019	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
19/02/2020	Vote in committee		
28/02/2020	Committee report tabled for plenary	A9-0029/2020	
13/05/2020	Results of vote in Parliament		

14/05/2020	Decision by Parliament	T9-0087/2020	Summary
14/05/2020	End of procedure in Parliament		
11/12/2020	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2019/2063(DEC)
Procedure type	DEC - Discharge procedure
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 159
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	CONT/9/00878

Documentation gateway

Non-legislative basic document		COM(2019)0316	27/06/2019	EC	
Committee draft report		PE639.834	11/12/2019	EP	
Committee opinion	LIBE	PE643.078	21/01/2020	EP	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE645.096	29/01/2020	EP	
Supplementary non-legislative basic document		05760/1/2020	17/02/2020	CSL	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A9-0029/2020	28/02/2020	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T9-0087/2020	14/05/2020	EP	Summary

Final act

Budget 2020/1885
[OJ L 417 11.12.2020, p. 0164](#)

2018 discharge: EU general budget, European Data Protection Supervisor

The European Parliament decided by 626 votes to 56, with 9 abstentions to grant discharge to the European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS) in respect of the implementation of the EDPS budget for the financial year 2018.

In the resolution accompanying its discharge decision (adopted by 628 votes to 56, with 8 abstentions), the European Parliament made a series of comments:

Budgetary and financial management

In its report on the EDPS's annual accounts for the financial year 2018, the Court of Auditors found no significant weaknesses in the audited areas of human resources and public procurement. The Court concluded that all payments for the financial year ended 31 December 2018 for the EDPS's administrative expenditure were free from material error and that the supervisory and control systems examined were effective.

Parliament welcomed the overall prudent and sound financial management shown by the EDPS. The EDPS made a clear distinction between 'current' and 'new' activities. The increase in new activities is mainly due to the establishment of a new EU entity, the European Data Protection Board (EDPB), which became operational as of 25 May 2018.

In 2018, the EDPS had a total budget of EUR 14 449 068 (compared to EUR 11 324 735 in 2017), which represents an increase of 27.59 % compared to the 2017 budget (budget increase of 21.93 % between 2016 and 2017). Members welcomed the fact that 93.7% of all appropriations were committed before the end of 2018, compared to 89% in 2017. However, they noted with concern that in terms of payment appropriations, budget implementation amounted to 75.2% of all appropriations (compared to 77% in 2017). They reiterated the need for budget estimates in order to ensure an efficient budgetary performance in the coming years.

Staff

Recognising that 2018 was a crucial year for the EDPS due to the adoption of Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (General data protection regulation), Parliament noted that the new tasks and responsibilities arising from the GDPR will require additional resources in the future. With regard to

staff recruitment planning, the EDPS called for a moderate increase of six staff members as part of the preparation for the establishment of the GDPR.

However, Members asked the EDPS to analyse the situation in relation to potential efficiency gains arising solely from reorganisation and reallocation of tasks.

Other comments

The EDPS was invited, inter alia, to:

- inform Parliament's Committee on Budgetary Control of all results achieved in terms of transparency and enhanced cooperation between European data protection authorities;
- make progress in establishing a coherent policy for the digitisation of its services;
- present detailed information on the achievements related to the ethical framework in the next annual activity report and to pay particular attention to the issue of whistleblower protection at the next awareness-raising session organised for all staff;
- provide answers to the issue of the potential misuse of digital data in the light of the scandal concerning the misuse of Facebook data by Cambridge Analytica and the growing evidence of illegal interference in elections;
- assess ways of improving the system of availability of CVs and declarations of interests of supervisors in consultation with other EU institutions and bodies;
- ensure the publication and regular updating of all its guidelines and procedures relating to the Ethics Framework on its website;
- provide more detailed information on concrete measures on how to improve well-being at work.

In general, Parliament highlighted the work achieved in recent years on issues such as performance-based budgeting, the ethical framework and the many related rules and procedures, enhanced communication activities and the increasing number of measures to improve transparency. It underlined the importance of collaboration and of sharing of experience among Union institutions and bodies and suggested that an analysis be made of the possibility of formalised networking activities in different domains in order to share best practises and to develop common solutions.