











Procedure file

Basic information		
DEC - Discharge procedure	2019/2068(DEC)	Procedure completed
2018 discharge: European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)		
Subject 8.70.03.08 2018 discharge		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	 Budgetary Control	 CZARNECKI Ryszard	07/10/2019
		Shadow rapporteur	
		 NOVAKOV Andrey	
		 WOLTERS Lara	
		 STRUGARIU Ramona	
		 EICKHOUT Bas	
		 KUHS Joachim	
		 OMARJEE Younous	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	 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		
03/03/2020	Committee report tabled for plenary	A9-0070/2020	
13/05/2020	Results of vote in Parliament		
13/05/2020	Decision by Parliament	T9-0115/2020	Summary
	End of procedure in Parliament		

13/05/2020			
11/12/2020	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2019/2068(DEC)
Procedure type	DEC - Discharge procedure
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	CONT/9/00861

Documentation gateway					
Non-legislative basic document		COM(2019)0316	27/06/2019	EC	
Committee draft report		PE639.879	06/12/2019	EP	
Committee opinion	LIBE	PE643.087	29/01/2020	EP	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE645.055	31/01/2020	EP	
Supplementary non-legislative basic document		05761/2020	06/02/2020	CSL	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A9-0070/2020	03/03/2020	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T9-0115/2020	13/05/2020	EP	Summary

Final act
Budget 2020/1970 OJ L 417 11.12.2020, p. 0429

2018 discharge: European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)

The European Parliament decided to grant discharge to the Director of the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) for the financial year 2017 and to approve the closure of the accounts for the financial year in question.

Noting that the Court of Auditors has stated that it has obtained reasonable assurances that the Agency's annual accounts for the financial year 2017 are reliable and that the underlying transactions are legal and regular, Parliament adopted by 460 votes to 225 with 7 abstentions, a resolution containing a series of recommendations, which form an integral part of the decision on discharge and which add to the general recommendations set out in the [resolution](#) on performance, financial management and control of EU agencies:

Agency's financial statements

The final budget of the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights for the financial year 2018 was EUR 22 960 429, representing a slight increase of 0.47 % compared to 2017.

Budget and financial management

Budget monitoring efforts during the financial year 2018 resulted in a budget implementation rate of 100 %, the same rate as in 2017. The payment appropriations execution rate was low at 76.20 %, this represented a slight increase of 4.09 % compared to 2017.

Parliament noted that according to the Courts report, carry-overs of committed appropriations were high for operating expenditure, mainly due to the nature of the activities which include financing studies that span several months and often beyond year-end. The Agency has introduced planning procedures to monitor the inevitable delays between the signing of contracts, deliveries and payments. Budget planning should be improved according to Parliament.

Other observations

Members also made a series of observations regarding performance, procurement, conflicts of interest and internal controls.

In particular, they noted that:

- in 2018 a new operational unit was established to strengthen interdepartmental cooperation on projects and enhance capacity for real-time responses;

- a feasibility study should be conducted in order to assess the possibility of, at the very least, setting up shared synergies with the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE), if not fully merging them;
- the Agency is encouraged to intensify its cooperation with international organisations, such as the Council of Europe and the United Nations, in order to find and use synergies, whenever possible;
- on 31 December 2018 the establishment plan was 98.61 % executed, with 71 temporary agents appointed out of 72 temporary agents authorised under the Union budget;
- the Agency completed a revision of the anti-fraud strategy which was adopted at a meeting of the management board in December 2018 and complemented by a specific action plan
- the remit of the Agency's competences should extend to all rights protected under the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, to include, inter alia, matters of police and judicial cooperation in criminal matters, and that the Agency should be able to issue opinions on legislative proposals on its own initiative.