

Procedure file

Basic information		
DEC - Discharge procedure	2019/2083(DEC)	Procedure completed
2018 discharge: European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex)		
Subject 8.70.03.08 2018 discharge		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	 Budgetary Control	 BRUDZIŃSKI Joachim Stanisław	07/10/2019
		Shadow rapporteur	
		 NOVAKOV Andrey	
		 WOLTERS Lara	
		 STRUGARIU Ramona	
		 EICKHOUT Bas	
		 KUHS Joachim	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	 Foreign 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		

04/03/2020	Committee report tabled for plenary	A9-0072/2020	
13/05/2020	Results of vote in Parliament		
13/05/2020	Decision by Parliament	T9-0117/2020	Summary
13/05/2020	End of procedure in Parliament		
11/12/2020	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2019/2083(DEC)
Procedure type	DEC - Discharge procedure
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	CONT/9/00832

Documentation gateway

Non-legislative basic document		COM(2019)0316	27/06/2019	EC	
Committee draft report		PE639.855	13/12/2019	EP	
Committee opinion	LIBE	PE643.088	30/01/2020	EP	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE645.056	31/01/2020	EP	
Supplementary non-legislative basic document		05761/2020	06/02/2020	CSL	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A9-0072/2020	04/03/2020	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T9-0117/2020	13/05/2020	EP	Summary

Final act

Budget 2020/1975
[OJ L 417 11.12.2020, p. 0444](#)

2018 discharge: European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex)

The European Parliament decided to grant discharge to the Executive Director of the European Border and Coast Guard Agency for the financial year 2018 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 2018 are reliable and that the underlying transactions are legal and regular, Parliament adopted by 588 votes to 95 with 10 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 Border and Coast Guard Agency for the financial year 2018 was EUR 288 663 520, representing an increase of 2.89 % compared to 2017.

Budget and financial management

Budget monitoring efforts during the financial year 2018 resulted in a budget implementation rate of 98.37 %, representing a slight increase of 0.74 % compared to 2017. Parliament noted with concern that the payment appropriations execution rate was low at 69.69 %, representing an increase of 3.27 % compared to 2017.

In 2018, the Agency had financing agreements with cooperating countries for operational activities, representing 59 % of the Agency's budget.

Carry-overs

It is noted that the Agency's budgetary carry-overs to 2019 amounted to EUR 83 000 000 (29 %), a slightly lower percentage than in the previous year. The rate of cancelled carry-overs to 2018 was EUR 11 000 000 (12 %), somewhat lower in relative terms than the previous year. The main reasons for carry-overs and cancellations were challenges arising from the staff establishment plan regarding the number and profile of staff, the delay to the launch of the building project for the Agency's new premises, the multi-annual nature of information and communications technology projects, and the overestimation of the scale and cost of activities from cooperating countries.

Other observations

Members also made a series of observations regarding performance, staff policy, procurement and internal controls.

In particular, they noted that:

- on 31 December 2018, the establishment plan was only 72.49 % executed, with 303 temporary agents appointed out of 418 temporary agents authorised under the Union budget;
- although the Agency continued further recruitment efforts and increased the number of staff from 526 to 630 in 2018, it still did not achieve the number of 760 staff authorised in its 2018 establishment plan;
- the Agency introduced a revised joint operations and returns financing scheme in 2018, which is based on simplified grant agreements with Member States using standardised unit costs for human resources;
- following the recent revision of its internal control framework, the Agency has ensured that all decisions to override controls, or deviations from the established processes and procedures, are documented, duly approved, and logged centrally;
- as regards the construction of the new headquarters building and the establishment of a European school in Warsaw, an adequate plot of land was attributed to the Agency by the Polish authorities in 2019, that planning is ongoing to build a purpose-designed premises of the Agency's headquarters by the end of 2024. The board of governors of European schools is to be asked by Polish authorities in Autumn 2019 to consider accreditation of a Warsaw associate European school of type II, which would be operational partly as from the 2020-2021 academic year.

Transparency				
NOVAKOV Andrey	Shadow rapporteur	CONT	19/02/2020	Frontex