



**2018/2200(DEC)**

17.1.2019

## **OPINION**

of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

for the Committee on Budgetary Control

on discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Europol) for the financial year 2017  
(2018/2200(DEC))

Rapporteur for opinion: Romeo Franz

PA\_NonLeg

## SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs calls on the Committee on Budgetary Control, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions into its motion for a resolution:

1. Welcomes the Court of Auditors' conclusions that the annual accounts of Europol present fairly its financial position on 31 December 2017 and that its transactions are legal and regular;
2. Highlights that in response to challenges imposed by migration Europol's budget increased and its staff reinforced; notes that in 2017 the budget of Europol increased from 104 to 118 million Euros and its staff increased from 737 to 834 full-time equivalents; welcomes in this context of growing activities the lack of remarks of the Court of Auditors regarding the execution of the 2017 budget of Europol; welcomes as well that all of the recommendations issued by the Court of Auditors for previous years have been closed; highlights, in particular, that as from 2017 the Court of Auditors does no longer report excessive carry-overs of commitment appropriations from the previous year (2016) to the current year (2017) for Title II (administrative expenditure);
3. Requests Europol to provide more information on the tasks and budgetary implications of its Internet Referral Unit (EU-IRU), which is not explicitly listed in the budget, but forms part of its European Counterterrorism Centre (ECTC); reminds that Article 4(1) of Regulation (EU) 2016/794 of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>1</sup> makes a reference to referrals of internet content in relation with terrorism to the online service providers, whereas Europol in close cooperation with industry actually supports related investigations by competent authorities; specifically requests information on the subsequent follow-up on cases identified and referred of terrorist internet content, including at the request of competent authorities in Member States;
4. Recalls the importance and the added value of Europol in the fight against organised crime across Europe and, in particular, its role in funding Joint Investigation Teams (JITs); welcomes, in that regard, the recent conclusion of a new Memorandum of Understanding between Europol and Eurojust<sup>2</sup> laying down criteria and conditions for the financial support to JITs activities provided by both of them;
5. Notes that Europol has managed to fill all its vacancies; regrets that Europol does not publish vacancy notices on the website of the European Personnel Selection Office (EPSO) but only on its own website and in social media; acknowledges that the working language of Europol is principally English; acknowledges the concerns of Europol with regard to additional translation costs; points out that the publication of Europol vacancy notices on the EPSO website would be useful and relevant as it would increase transparency and publicity and allow Union citizens to identify vacancies published by the different Union institutions and agencies collectively; requests Europol to also

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<sup>1</sup> Regulation (EU) 2016/794 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 May 2016 on the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Europol) and replacing and repealing Council Decisions 2009/371/JHA, 2009/934/JHA, 2009/935/JHA, 2009/936/JHA and 2009/968/JHA (OJ L 135, 24.5.2016, p. 53)

<sup>2</sup> Memorandum of Understanding on the joint establishment of rules and conditions for financial support to joint investigation team activities between Europol and Eurojust, signed on the 1 June 2018.

publish its vacancy notices on the EPSO website; invites the Commission to consider measures aimed at reducing the financial burden for the translation of vacancy notices upon the agencies, including by establishing an ad hoc framework agreement with the Translation Centre for the Bodies of the European Union (CdT);

6. Welcomes the commitment of Europol to address the three recommendations identified by the Commission's Internal Audit Service in its 2017 audit report on "Procurement in the European Police Office".

## INFORMATION ON ADOPTION IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

<b>Date adopted</b>	10.1.2019
<b>Result of final vote</b>	+:           43 -:           2 0:           1
<b>Members present for the final vote</b>	Asim Ademov, Martina Anderson, Heinz K. Becker, Monika Beňová, Michał Boni, Caterina Chinnici, Rachida Dati, Frank Engel, Laura Ferrara, Romeo Franz, Kinga Gál, Ana Gomes, Nathalie Griesbeck, Sylvie Guillaume, Monika Hohlmeier, Sophia in 't Veld, Cécile Kashetu Kyenge, Monica Macovei, Roberta Metsola, Claude Moraes, Ivari Padar, Judith Sargentini, Birgit Sippel, Csaba Sógor, Helga Stevens, Traian Ungureanu, Bodil Valero, Marie-Christine Vergiat, Udo Voigt, Josef Weidenholzer, Kristina Winberg, Tomáš Zdechovský, Auke Zijlstra
<b>Substitutes present for the final vote</b>	Dennis de Jong, Anna Hedh, Lívia Járóka, Marek Jurek, Jean Lambert, Jeroen Lenaers, Andrejs Mamikins, Angelika Mlinar, Maite Pagazaurtundúa Ruiz, Christine Revault d'Allonnes Bonnefoy
<b>Substitutes under Rule 200(2) present for the final vote</b>	Norbert Erdős, Fernando Ruas, Adam Szejnfeld

## FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

43	+
ALDE	Nathalie Griesbeck, Sophia in 't Veld, Angelika Mlinar, Maite Pagazaurtundúa Ruiz
ECR	Marek Jurek, Monica Macovei, Helga Stevens, Kristina Winberg
EFDD	Laura Ferrara
GUE/NGL	Dennis de Jong, Marie-Christine Vergiat
PPE	Asim Ademov, Heinz K. Becker, Michał Boni, Rachida Dati, Frank Engel, Norbert Erdős, Kinga Gál, Monika Hohlmeier, Lívia Járóka, Jeroen Lenaers, Roberta Metsola, Fernando Ruas, Csaba Sógor, Adam Szejnfeld, Traian Ungureanu, Tomáš Zdechovský
S&D	Monika Beňová, Caterina Chinnici, Ana Gomes, Sylvie Guillaume, Anna Hedh, Cécile Kashetu Kyenge, Andrejs Mamikins, Claude Moraes, Ivari Padar, Christine Revault d'Allonnes Bonnefoy, Birgit Sippel, Josef Weidenholzer
VERTS/ALE	Romeo Franz, Jean Lambert, Judith Sargentini, Bodil Valero

2	-
ENF	Auke Zijlstra
NI	Udo Voigt

1	0
GUE/NGL	Martina Anderson

Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention