

# Balance Sheet of Activities during the 8<sup>th</sup> legislative term

May 2016 - April 2017



**COMMITTEE ON BUDGETARY CONTROL**

Directorate-General for Internal Policies of the Union



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## **SUMMARY**



## **COMMITTEE ON BUDGETARY CONTROL** **DRAFT BALANCE SHEET OF ACTIVITIES DURING THE 8<sup>th</sup> TERM** **3rd year - from May 2016 to April 2017**

During the third year of the 8<sup>th</sup> Legislative Term, the Budgetary Control Committee conducted a full cycle of the 2015 discharge for the various EU institutions and bodies. Additionally, the Committee still worked on improving its performance and focused on how the political objectives are achieved through better control over the European Union's finances as well as through increased transparency.

The Committee consisted of 30 members including the Chair and four Vice-Chairs. Throughout the third year of the 8<sup>th</sup> Legislative Term, the Committee held **22 ordinary meetings and 12 coordinators' meetings** as well as a number of other meetings including **extraordinary meetings, hearings, workshops, missions and an increasing number of joint committee meetings**.

During the third year of the 8<sup>th</sup> Legislative Term the Committee adopted **65 reports, 10 opinions and 34 working documents**.

The Committee held 17 exchanges of views with Commissioners, mainly in the context of the discharge. Furthermore, 50 exchanges of views were held with the Members and Representatives of the Court of Auditors in the framework of the presentation of the Court of Auditors' Special Reports. A total of 79 exchange of views were held with representatives of the European Commission during the 22 meetings. 2 exchanges of views were held with the Secretary General of the European Parliament in the context of the discharge as well as 1 exchange of view with the Maltese Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

In addition to the abovementioned, the following exchanges of views were held: 2 with the Director-General of OLAF, 1 with the OLAF Supervisory Committee, 12 exchanges of views with 26 Representatives of Agencies, Joint Undertakings and other Institutions.

Within the context of nominations for Membership of the Court of Auditors, the Committee held 7 hearings with the nominated candidates.

It also conducted 3 missions within the EU, and 2 missions outside the EU during this period.

As regards the activities of the policy department for the Committee in the course of the first year of the 8<sup>th</sup> Legislative Term, 6 workshops and 7 external studies were requested.

## Comparative table between the activities during the 1st, the 2nd year and the 3rd year of the 8th Legislative Term

	1st year	2nd year	3rd year
<b>Meetings</b>	19	26	22
<b>Coordinators meetings</b>	10	11	12
<b>Joint meetings</b>	3	4	10 including the joint presentation of 3 ECA Special Reports
<b>Reports adopted</b>	55	67	66
<b>Opinions adopted</b>	6	10	10
<b>Working documents</b>	26	27	34
<b>Public hearings Workshops</b>	3 hearings no workshops	4 hearings 3 workshops	2 public hearings 6 workshops
<b>Missions</b>	No mission	2	5
<b>Hearings on nominations by EU institutions</b>	2 hearings on the nomination of Commissioners designates	7 hearings on the nomination of candidates for membership of the Court of Auditors	7 hearings on the nomination of candidates for membership of the Court of Auditors
<b>External studies</b>	1	4	7



## **I. COMMITTEE COMPOSITION**



# COMMITTEE COMPOSITION

## 1. Bureau

**A mid-term constituent meeting was held on 23 January 2017 with the following results**

- Chair - renewed : Ingeborg Gräßle (EPP, Germany)
- 1st vice-chair - renewed : Derek Vaughan, (S&D, United Kingdom)
- 2nd vice-chair - newly elected: Indrek Tarand (Greens/EFA, Estonia)
- 3rd vice-chair - renewed: Martina Dlabajová (ALDE, Czech Republic)
- 4th vice-chair - newly elected: Cătălin Sorin Ivan (S&D, Romania)

## 2. Members

The committee was composed of 30 full Members distributed by political groups as follows:

EPP:	8
S&D:	8
ECR:	4
ALDE:	3
GUE/NGL:	2
Greens/EFA:	2
EFDD:	2
ENF:	1

## 3. Coordinators

Chair: Ingeborg Gräßle

EPP Petri Sarvamaa  
Tomáš Zdechovský (deputy Coordinator)

S-D Inés Ayala Sender

ECR Ryszard Czarnecki

ALDE Ali Nedzhmi (succeeded to Michael Theurer)

GUE/NGL Dennis de Jong

Greens/EFA Bart Staes

EFDD Marco Valli

ENF Jean-François Jalkh (succeeded to Louis Aliot)



**II. COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD FROM MAY 2016 TO APRIL 2017**



## CONT MEETINGS

**The Committee on Budgetary Control held 19 ordinary meetings in Brussels, 3 extraordinary meetings in Strasbourg (43 half days in total) and 12 Coordinators' meetings from May 2016 until April 2017**

### 10 joint meetings

- 1 joint meeting with BUDG on the Performance-based budgeting, in Brussels, on 24 May 2016
- 1 joint meeting with BUDG on the presentation of the ECA Special Report 7/2016: The European External Action Service's management of its buildings around the world, in Brussels, on 14 June 2016
- 1 joint meeting with the EP Delegation to the EU-former-Yugoslav-Republic-of-Macedonia-JPC on the presentation of the ECA Special Report 11/2016: Strengthening administrative capacity in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia: limited progress in a difficult context, in Brussels, on 26 September 2016
- 1 joint meeting with BUDG on the presentation of the ECA Special Report 9/2016: EU external migration spending in Southern Mediterranean and Eastern Neighbourhood countries until 2014, in Brussels, on 12 October 2016
- 1 joint meeting with CULT on the LUX Film Prize survey: follow-up of the paragraph 59 of the resolution related to the European Parliament 2013 discharge procedure, in Brussels, on 7 November 2016
- 1 joint meeting with DEVE on the management of EU funds in third countries - Analysis of the reporting and key performance indicators (KPIs) results with regard to 2015 External Assistance Management Reports (EAMR), in Brussels, on 28 November 2016
- 1 joint BUDG -CONT - JURI exchange of views with Günther Oettinger, Member of the European Commission, on the transfer of the portfolio for Budget and Human Resources, in Brussels, on 7 January 2017
- 1 joint meeting with BUDG on the Financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, in Brussels, on 25 January 2017
- 1 joint meeting with DEVE on the Management of the African Peace Facility, in Brussels, on 31 January 2017
- 1 joint meeting with ECON on the presentation of the ECA Special Report 29/2016: Single Supervisory Mechanism - Good start but further improvements needed, in Strasbourg, on 13 February 2017

### 12 Coordinators' meetings

- 12 May 2016 in Strasbourg
- 24 May 2016
- 9 June 2016 in Strasbourg
- 14 June 2016
- 6 October 2016 in Strasbourg
- 12 October 2016
- 21 November 2016 in Strasbourg
- 9 January 2017
- 10 January 2017
- 24 January 2017

- 28 February 2017

- 23 March 2017





### **III. DOCUMENTS PRODUCED BY THE COMMITTEE**



## REPORTS

The Committee on Budgetary Control adopted **66 reports** from May 2016 until April 2017

Report Procedure	Rapporteur	Title report	Adoption in CONT
<b>Standard reports</b>			
A8-0188/2016 T8-0308/2016 2016/0064(COD)	Ingeborg Gräßle (EPP)	Amending Regulation (EU, EURATOM) No 883/2013, as EP150 regards the secretariat of the Supervisory Committee of the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF)	24/05/2016
A8-0004/2017 T8-0022/2017 2016/2055(INI)	Dennis de Jong (GUE)	The role of whistle-blowers in the protection of EU's financial interests	09/01/2017
A8-0002/2017 T8-0021/2017 2015/2319(INI)	Dennis de Jong (GUE)	Control of the Register and composition of the Commission's expert groups	09/01/2017
A8-0161/2016 T8-0138/2016 2016/2098(INI)	Nedzhmi Ali (ALDE)	Annual Report on the control of the financial activities of the EIB for 2015	27/03/2017
<b>Nomination for membership of the ECA</b>			
A8-0183/2016 T8-0245/2016 2016/0805(NLE)	Bart Staes (Greens)	Partial renewal of members of the Court of Auditors - LT nominee	Approved on 23/05/2016
A8-0257/2016 T8-0330/2016 2016/0806(NLE)	Igor Šoltes (Greens)	Partial renewal of members of the Court of Auditors - MT nominee	<b>Rejected</b> on 05/09/2016
A8-0258/2016 T8-0328/2016 2016/0807(NLE)	Igor Šoltes (Greens)	Partial renewal of members of the Court of Auditors - CY nominee	Approved on 05/09/2016
A8-0259/2016 T8-0329/2016 2016/0809(NLE)	Igor Šoltes (Greens)	Replacement of a member of the European Court of Auditors - PT nominee	Approved on 05/09/2016
A8-0375/2016 T8-0500/2016 2016/0817(NLE)	Bart Staes (Greens)	Partial renewal of members of the Court of Auditors - EE nominee	Approved on 05/12/2016
A8-0166/2017 T8-0137/2017 2017/0802(NLE)	Indrek Tarand (Greens)	Partial renewal of members of the Court of Auditors - HU nominee	Approved on 12/04/2017

### Discharge 2014: 2nd reports after postponement voted in April 2016

A8-0271/2016 T8-0418/2016 2015/2156(DEC)	Ryszard Czarnecki (ECR)	Discharge 2014: EU general budget - Council and European Council	26/09/2016
A8-0276/2016 T8-0420/2016 2015/2199(DEC)	Marian-Jean Marinescu (EPP)	Discharge 2014: Embedded computing systems (Artemis)	
A8-0264/2016 T8-0419/2016 2015/2199(DEC)	Marian-Jean Marinescu (EPP)	Discharge 2014 : European Nanoelectronics Initiative Advisory Council (ENIAC)	
A8-0275/2016 T8-0421/2016 2015/2196(DEC)	Marian-Jean Marinescu (EPP)	Discharge 2014 - International Fusion Energy Organization (ITER)	

### Discharge 2015

A8-0150/2017 T8-0143/2017 2016/2151(DEC)	Joachim Zeller (EPP)	Discharge 2015: European Commission	22/03/2017
A8-0160/2017 T8-0144/2017 2016/2208(DEC)		Discharge 2015: European Commission ECA Special Reports	
A8-0153/2017 T8-0146/2017 2016/2152(DEC)	Dennis de Jong (GUE)	Discharge 2015: European Parliament	
A8-0122/2017 T8-0152/2017 2016/2160(DEC)	Benedek Jávor (Greens)	Discharge 2015: EU general budget - European External Action Service	
A8-0131/2017 T8-0147/2017 2016/2153(DEC)	Bart Staes (Greens)	Discharge 2015: General budget of the EU - Council and European Council <b>Postponed</b>	
A8-0136/2017 T8-0148/2017 2016/2154(DEC)	Benedek Jávor (Greens)	Discharge 2015: EU general budget - Court of Justice	
A8-0151/2017 T8-0149/2017 2016/2155(DEC)	Benedek Jávor (Greens)	Discharge 2015: EU general budget - European Court of Auditors	
A8-0144/2017 T8-0150/2017 2016/2156(DEC)	Bart Staes (Greens)	Discharge 2015: EU general budget - European Economic and Social Committee	
A8-0141/2017 T8-0151/2017 2016/2157(DEC)	Bart Staes (Greens)	Discharge 2015: EU general budget - Committee of the Regions	
A8-0142/2017 T8-0153/2017 2016/2158(DEC)	Benedek Jávor (Greens)	Discharge 2015: EU general budget - European Ombudsman	

A8-0140/2017 T8-0154/2017 2016/2159(DEC)	Bart Staes (Greens)	Discharge 2015: EU general budget - European Data Protection Supervisor	
A8-0125/2017 T8-0145/2017 2016/2202(DEC)	Younous Omarjee (GUE)	Discharge 2015: EU general budget - 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th EDFs	
A8-0149/2017 T8-0155/2017 2016/2206(DEC)	Inés Ayala Sender (S&D)	Discharge 2015: Report on discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the European Union Agencies: performance, financial management and control	22/03/2017
A8-0147/2017 T8-0156/2017 2016/2189(DEC)		Discharge 2015: Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER)	
A8-0143/2017 T8-0157/2017 2016/2190(DEC)		Discharge 2015: Office of the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC)	
A8-0075/2017 T8-0158/2017 2016/2168(DEC)		Discharge 2015: Translation Centre for the Bodies of the European Union (CdT)	
A8-0145/2017 T8-0159/2017 2016/2161(DEC)		Discharge 2015: European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (Cedefop)	
A8-0081/2017 T8-0160/2017 2016/2178(DEC)		Discharge 2015: European Police College (CEPOL)	
A8-0087/2017 T8-0161/2017 2016/2173(DEC)		Discharge 2015: European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA)	
A8-0093/2017 T8-0162/2017 2016/2192(DEC)		Discharge 2015: European Asylum Support Office (EASO)	
A8-0079/2017 T8-0163/2017 2016/2186(DEC)		Discharge 2015: European Banking Authority (EBA)	
A8-0082/2017 T8-0164/2017 2016/2175(DEC)		Discharge 2015: European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)	
A8-0085/2017 T8-0165/2017 2016/2182(DEC)		Discharge 2015: European Chemicals Agency (ECHA)	
A8-0085/2017 T8-0166/2017 2016/2166(DEC)		Discharge 2015: European Environment Agency (EEA)	
A8-0100/2017 T8-0167/2017 2016/2181(DEC)		Discharge 2015: European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA)	

A8-0098/2017 T8-0168/2017 2016/2174(DEC)	Discharge 2015: European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)
A8-0106/2017 T8-0169/2017 2016/2185(DEC)	Discharge 2015: European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE)
A8-0101/2017 T8-0170/2017 2016/2187(DEC)	Discharge 2015: European Insurance and Occupational Pensions Authority (EIOPA)
A8-0127/2017 T8-0171/2017 2016/2191(DEC)	Discharge 2015: European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT)
A8-0084/2017 T8-0172/2017 2016/2169(DEC)	Discharge 2015: European Medicines Agency (EMA)
A8-0099/2017 T8-0173/2017 2016/2164(DEC)	Discharge 2015: European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA)
A8-0130/2017 T8-0174/2017 2016/2172(DEC)	Discharge 2015: European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA)
A8-0115/2017 T8-0175/2017 2016/2176(DEC)	Discharge 2015: European Network and Information Security Agency (ENISA)
A8-0128/2017 T8-0176/2017 2016/2177(DEC)	Discharge 2015: European Railway Agency (ERA)
A8-0126/2017 T8-0181/2017 2016/2183(DEC)	Discharge 2015: Euratom Supply Agency (ESA)
A8-0124/2017 T8-0177/2017 2016/2188(DEC)	Discharge 2015: European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA)
A8-0118/2017 T8-0178/2017 2016/2171(DEC)	Discharge 2015: European Training Foundation (ETF)
A8-0105/2017 T8-0179/2017 2016/2193(DEC)	Discharge 2015: European Agency for the operational management of large-scale IT systems in the area of freedom, security and justice (eu-LISA)
A8-0116/2017 T8-0180/2017 2016/2167(DEC)	Discharge 2015: European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA)
A8-0111/2017 T8-0182/2017 2016/2161(DEC)	Discharge 2015: European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions (Eurofound)

A8-0129/2017 T8-0183/2017 2016/2170(DEC)		Discharge 2015: The European Union's Judicial Cooperation Unit (EUROJUST)	
A8-0107/2017 T8-0184/2017 2016/2184(DEC)		Discharge 2015: European Police Office (EUROPOL)	
A8-0146/2017 T8-0185/2017 2016/2163(DEC)		Discharge 2015: European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)	
A8-0137/2017 T8-0186/2017 2016/2179(DEC)		Discharge 2015: European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at the External Borders of the Member States of the European Union (FRONTEX)	
A8-0148/2017 T8-0187/2017 2016/2180(DEC)		Discharge 2015: European GNSS Agency (GSA)	
A8-0103/2017 T8-0188/2017 2016/2197(DEC)	Miroslav Poche (S&D)	Discharge 2015: Bio-based industries (BBI)	23/03/2017
A8-0094/2017 T8-0189/2017 2016/2196(DEC)		Discharge 2015: Joint Undertaking - Aeronautics and the environment (Clean Sky)	
A8-0113/2017 T8-0190/2017 2016/2201(DEC)		Discharge 2015: Electric Components & Systems for European Leadership (ECSEL Joint Undertaking)	
A8-0109/2017 T8-0191/2017 2016/2199(DEC)		Discharge 2015: Fuel Cells and Hydrogen Joint Undertaking (FCH)	
A8-0083/2017 T8-0192/2017 2016/2198(DEC)		Discharge 2015: Joint Undertaking - Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI)	
A8-0108/2017 T8-0193/2017 2016/2194(DEC)		Discharge 2015: International Fusion Energy Organisation (ITER)	
A8-0096/2017 T8-0194/2017 2016/2195(DEC)		Discharge 2015: Joint Undertaking - Air Navigation Safety (SESAR)	



## OPINIONS

**The Committee on Budgetary Control adopted 10 opinions from May 2016 until April 2017**

Procedure	Rapporteur for opinion	Title	CONT adoption	Main Committee
2014/2252(INI)	Patricija Šulin (EPP)	Annual reports 2012-2013 on subsidiarity and proportionality	05/05/2016	JURI
2015/2104(INI)	Ryszard Czarnecki (ECR)	The role of the EU within the UN - how to better achieve EU foreign policy goals	22/09/2016	AFET
2015/2132(BUD)	Ingeborg Gräßle (EPP)	General budget of the European Union for the financial year 2016 - all sections	22/09/2016	BUDG
2015/2042(INI)	Inés Ayala Sender (S&D)	Implementation of the European Progress Microfinance Facility	19/10/2016	EMPL
2015/2041(INI)	Tamás Deutsch (EPP)	Transparency, accountability and integrity in the EU institutions	01/12/2016	AFCO
2014/2249(INI)	Petri Sarvamaa (EPP)	Improving the functioning of the European Union building on the potential of the Lisbon Treaty	23/02/2017	AFCO
2016/2006(INI)	Ryszard Czarnecki (ECR)	International Accounting Standards (IAS) Evaluation and on Activities of the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) Foundation, European Financial Reporting Advisory Group (EFRAG) and the Public Interest Oversight Board (PIOB)	04/04/2017	ECON
2015/2284(INI)	Marco Valli (EFDD)	The activities, impact and added value of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund between 2007 and 2014	20/04/2017	EMPL
2015/2351(INI)	Derek Vaughan (S&D)	Assessment of the EU Youth Strategy 2013-2015	20/04/2017	CULT
2015/2110(INI)	Julia Pitera (EPP)	Fight against corruption and follow up of the CRIM resolution	20/04/2017	LIBE

## WORKING DOCUMENTS IN THE CONTEXT OF THE DISCHARGE

These working documents were considered in the presence of the Member of the Court of Auditors responsible, at the same time ECA Special Reports were presented

The Committee on Budgetary Control considered **34 working documents** from May 2016 until April 2017

Date of consideration of the working document	Title	CONT Rapporteur	Member of the Court of Auditors
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Discharge 2015			
23/05/2016	<b>ECA Special Report N° 5/2016:</b> Has the Commission ensured effective implementation of the Services Directive?	Nedzhmi Ali (ALDE)	Neven Mates
24/05/2016	<b>ECA Special Report N° 23/2015:</b> Water quality in the Danube river basin: progress in implementing the Water Framework Directive but still some way to go	Tamás Deutsch (EPP)	George Pufan
	<b>ECA Special Report N° 1/2016:</b> Is the Commission's system for performance measurement in relation to farmers' incomes well designed and based on sound data?	Claudia Schmidt (EPP)	Rasa Budbergytė
13/06/2016	<b>ECA Special Report N° 6/2016:</b> Eradication, control and monitoring programmes to contain animal diseases	Tomáš Zdechovský (EPP)	Bettina Jakobsen
14/06/2016	<b>ECA Special Report N° 7/2016:</b> The European External Action Service's management of its buildings around the world	Ryszard Czarnecki (ECR)	Pietro Russo
	<b>ECA Special Report N° 19/2015:</b> More attention to result needed to improve the delivery of technical assistance to Greece	Michael Theurer (ALDE)	Baudilio Tomé Muguruza
13/07/2016	<b>ECA Special Report N° 3/2016:</b> Combating eutrophication in the Baltic Sea: further and more effective action needed	Petri Sarvamaa (EPP)	Ville Itälä

Date of consideration of the working document	Title	CONT Rapporteur	Member of the Court of Auditors
	<b>ECA Special Report N° 8/2016:</b> Rail freight transport performance in the EU: still not on the right track	Marian-Jean Marinescu (EPP)	Ladislav Balko
26/09/2016	<b>ECA Special Report N° 11/2016:</b> Strengthening administrative capacity in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia: limited progress in a difficult context	Tomáš Zdechovský (EPP)	H.G. Wessberg
	<b>ECA Special Report N° 4/2016:</b> The European Institute of Innovation and Technology must modify its delivery mechanism and elements of its design to achieve the expected impact	Dennis de Jong (GUE)	Alex Brenninkmeijer
12/10/2016	<b>ECA Special Report N° 9/2016:</b> Union external migration spending in Southern Mediterranean and Eastern Neighbourhood countries until 2014 <b>Joint presentation CONT/BUDG</b>	Marian-Jean Marinescu (EPP) & Iris Hoffmann (S&D)	Danièle Lamarque
	<b>ECA Special Report N° 12/2016:</b> Agencies' use of grants: not always appropriate or demonstrably effective	Dennis de Jong (GUE)	Rimantas Šadžius
13/10/2016	<b>ECA Special Report N° 14/2016:</b> EU policy initiatives and financial support for Roma integration: significant progress made over the last decade, but additional efforts needed on the ground	Younous Omarjee (GUE)	Henri Grethen
	<b>ECA Special Report N° 15/2016:</b> Did the Commission affectively manage the Humanitarian aid provided to populations effected by conflicts in the African Great Lakes Region?	Miroslav Poche (S&D)	Karel Pinxten
07/11/2016	<b>ECA Special Report N° 18/2016:</b> The EU system for the certification of sustainable biofuels	Tomáš Zdechovský (EPP)	Bettina Jakobsen
	<b>ECA Special Report N° 17/2016:</b> The EU institutions can for more to facilitate access to their Public Procurement	Monica Macovei (ECR)	Alex Brenninkmeijer

Date of consideration of the working document	Title	CONT Rapporteur	Member of the Court of Auditors
28/11/2016	<b>ECA Special Report N° 16/2016:</b> EU education objectives: programmes aligned but shortcomings in performance measurement	Derek Vaughan (S&D)	Iliana Ivanova
	<b>ECA Special Report N° 19/2016:</b> Implementing the EU budget through financial instruments - Lessons to be learnt from the 2007-2013 programme	Marco Valli (EPP)	Iliana Ivanova
29/11/2016	<b>ECA Special Report N° 22/2016:</b> EU nuclear decommissioning assistance programmes in Lithuania, Bulgaria and Slovakia: some progress made since 2011 but critical challenges ahead	Marian-Jean Marinescu (EPP)	Phil Wynn Owen
05/12/2016	<b>ECA Special Report N° 27/2016:</b> Governance at the European Commission - best practice?	Andrey Novakov (EPP)	Lazaros S. Lazarou
08/12/2016	<b>ECA Special Report N° 23/2016:</b> Maritime transport in the EU: in troubled waters - much ineffective and unsustainable investment	Claudia Schmidt (EPP)	Oskar Herics
	<b>ECA Special Report N° 13/2016:</b> Union assistance for strengthening the public administration in Moldova	Tomáš Zdechovský (EPP)	H.G. Wessberg
	<b>ECA Special Report N° 20/2016:</b> Strengthening capacity in Montenegro: progress but better needed in many key areas	Tomáš Zdechovský (EPP)	H. G. Wessberg
23/01/2017	<b>ECA Special Report N° 25/2016:</b> The Land Parcel Identification System: a useful tool to determine the eligibility of agricultural land – but its management could be further improved	Claudia Schmidt (EPP)	Nikolaos Milionis
	<b>ECA Special Report N° 28/2016:</b> Dealing with serious cross-border threats to health in the EU: important steps taken but more needs to be done	Brian Hayes (EPP)	Janusz Wojciechowski
30/01/2017	<b>ECA Special Report N° 26/2016:</b> Making cross-compliance more effective and achieving simplification remains challenging	Karin Kadenbach (S&D)	Nikolaos Milionis

Date of consideration of the working document	Title	CONT Rapporteur	Member of the Court of Auditors
<b>Discharge 2016</b>			
13/02/2017	<b>ECA Special Report N°29/2016:</b> Single Supervisory Mechanism - Good start but further improvements needed <b>Joint presentation CONT/ECON</b>	Marco Valli (EFDD)	Neven Mates
	<b>ECA Special Report N°32/2016:</b> EU assistance to Ukraine	Joachim Zeller (EPP)	Szabolcs Fazakas
27/02/2017	<b>ECA Special Report N°34/2016:</b> Combating Food Waste: an opportunity for the EU to improve the resource-efficiency of the food supply chain	Tomáš Zdechovský (EPP)	Bettina Jakobsen
28/02/2017	<b>ECA Special Report N°36/2016:</b> An assessment of the arrangements for closure of the 2007-2013 cohesion and rural development programmes	Bogusław Liberadzki (S&D)	Ladislav Balko
	<b>ECA Special Report N°31/2016:</b> Spending at least one euro in every five from the EU budget on climate action: ambitious work underway, but at serious risk of falling short	Tomáš Zdechovský (EPP)	Phil Wynn Owen
	<b>ECA Special Report N° 21/2016:</b> EU pre-accession assistance for strengthening administrative capacity in the Western Balkans: A meta- audit	Joachim Zeller (EPP)	Szabolcs Fazakas
27/03/2017	<b>ECA Special Report N° 24/2016:</b> More efforts needed to enforce compliance with and raise awareness of State aid rules in cohesion policy	Nedzhmi Ali (ALDE)	Oskar Herics
12/04/2017	<b>ECA Special Report N° 5/2017:</b> Youth employment - have EU policies made a difference? An assessment of the Youth Guarantee and the Youth Employment Initiative	Derek Vaughan (S&D)	Iliana Ivanova

## **IV. ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMITTEE**



## **1. EXCHANGE OF VIEWS**





## EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH COMMISSIONERS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

The Committee on Budgetary Control held **17 exchanges of views with Commissioners and 79 exchange of views with Representatives of the European Commission** from May 2016 until April 2017

Date	Member / Representative	Main Subject
23/05/2016	<b>Joaquim Nunes de Almeida</b> (Director - DG GROW G)	ECA Special Report 5/2016 (2015 Discharge): Has the Commission ensured effective implementation of the Services Directive?
	<b>Donato Raponi</b> (Head of Unit - DG TAXUD C1)	Towards a definitive VAT system and fighting VAT fraud
	<b>Franz-Peter Veits</b> (DG EMPL C5)	CONT Mission to Germany (3 to 5 November 2015)
	<b>Nadia Calviño</b> (Director-General for Budget)	Performance-based budgeting
24/05/2016	<b>Haniotis Tassos</b> (Director - DG AGRI)	ECA Special Report N°1/2016 (2015 Discharge): Is the Commission's system for performance measurement in relation to farmers' incomes well designed and based on sound data?
	<b>Jorge Rodriguez Romero</b> (DG ENV C1)	ECA Special Report 23/2015 (2015 Discharge): Water quality in the Danube river basin: progress in implementing the Water Framework Directive but still some way to go
	<b>Ralph Schmitt-Nilson</b> (DG ECFIN)	Budgetary capacity for the Eurozone
	<b>Lucia Recalde Langarica</b> (Head of Unit - DG CONNECT)	Hearing on "Protection of the financial interests of the European Union: the role of investigative journalism, watchdog NGOs and multimedia actions"
13/06/2016	<b>Christophe Bertrand</b> (Head of Unit - DG SANCO)	ECA Special Report 6/2016 (2015 Discharge): Eradication, control and monitoring programmes to contain animal diseases

Date	Member / Representative	Main Subject
	<b>Ilse Van den Abeele</b> (Head of Unit for Audit - DG REGIO)  <b>Gabriela Hernandez</b> (Head of Unit for Czech Republic - DG REGIO)	Follow-up of the delegation to the Czech Republic
14/06/2016	<b>William Sleath</b> (Head of Unit - SG)	Cooperation and Verification Mechanism with regard to Bulgaria and Romania – latest developments
	<b>Vittoria Alliata</b> (Director - DG REGIO)	The European Union Solidarity Fund: an assessment
	<b>Giorgio Chiarion Casoni</b> (DG ECFIN)	Exchange of views with the European Investment Bank on the Castor project, as part of the Project Bond Initiative (PBI)
	<b>Willebrordus Sluitjers</b> (Head of Unit - DG REGIO)  <b>Sébastien Renaud</b> (Policy Officer - SG)	Workshop on "Follow-up of CONT Delegation to Greece. How to improve land expropriation decisions?"
	<b>Mary Mc Carthy</b> (Director - DG SRSS)	ECA Special Report N°19/2015 (2015 Discharge): More attention to results needed to improve the delivery of technical assistance to Greece
	<b>Manfred Kraff</b> (Director-General - DG BUDG)	General budget of the European Union for the financial year 2017 - all sections
04/07/2016	<b>Gerassimos Thomas</b> (Deputy Director General - DG ENER)	Position of the European Commission and the Fusion for Energy Joint Undertaking on the ITER Project progress in light of the recent ITER Council conclusions
13/07/2016	<b>Henning Klaus</b> (Head of Unit - SG)	Control of the Register and composition of the Commission's expert groups
	<b>PhiliEPP Bertrand</b> (DG BUDG)	General budget of the European Union for the financial year 2017 - all sections
	<b>Donatienne Claeys Bouaert</b> (Head of Unit - SG)	Commissioners' declarations of interests - Guidelines

Date	Member / Representative	Main Subject
	<b>Herald Ruijters</b> (Director - DG MOVE)	ECA Special Report 8/2016 (2015 Discharge): Rail freight transport performance in the EU: still not on the right track
	<b>Matjaž Malgaj</b> (Head of Unit - DG ENV)	ECA Special Report 3/2016 (2015 Discharge): Combatting eutrophication in the Baltic Sea: further and more effective action needed
	<b>Denis Genton</b> (Head of Unit - DG EMPL)	CONT Mission to Italy (18-20 July 2016)
	<b>Stephen Quest</b> (Director- General - DG TAXUD) <b>Caroline Edery</b> (Head of Unit - DG TAXUD)	Hearing on "Corporate VAT fraud"
	<b>Dimitris Avramopoulos</b> (Commissioner for Migration, Home Affairs and Citizenship)	State of play of the financing and the implementation of the measures taken by the Union in the context of the migration crisis
14/07/2016	<b>Miguel Arias Cañete</b> (Commissioner for Climate Action and Energy)	Discharge 2014 - International Fusion Energy Organization (ITER)
	<b>Chantal Marijnissen</b> (Head of Unit - DG DEVCO) <b>Anthony Lockett</b> (Deputy Head of Unit - DG REGIO)	Study on "How EU and Member States manage data transparency and accessibility on EU funds"
05/09/2016	<b>Fabienne Bessone</b> (International Aid/Cooperation Officer - DG DEVCO) <b>Guillaume Fine</b> (Team Leader - for Egypt, Israel and Occupied Palestinian Territory - DG NEAR)	CONT mission to Jordan and Lebanon (20-23 September 2016)
26/09/2016	<b>Satith Sule</b> (Legal Officer - DG Justice)	The role of whistle-blowers in the protection of EU's financial interests

Date	Member / Representative	Main Subject
	<b>Simon Mordue</b> (Acting Director - DG NEAR)	ECA Special Report 11/2016 (2015 Discharge): Strengthening administrative capacity in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia: limited progress in a difficult context
	<b>Florian Hauser</b> (Policy Officer - ESF and Cohesion policy - DG EMPL)	Public sector reform and how the EU budget is used to encourage reform in this regard
	<b>Vittoria Alliata</b> (Director - DG REGIO)	Study by DG REGIO on "Public Procurement – a study on administrative capacity in the field of European Structural and Investment ESI Funds"  <b>REGI Members were invited to this presentation</b>
12/10/2016	<b>Manfred Kraff</b> (Director-General - DG BUDG)	The evaluation of external aspects of the customs performance and management as a tool to facilitate trade and fight illicit trade
	<b>Maciej Popowski</b> (Acting Director - DG NEAR)  <b>Jean-Louis Ville</b> (Acting Director - DG DEVCO)	ECA Special Report 9/2016 (2015 Discharge): EU external migration spending in Southern Mediterranean and Eastern Neighbourhood countries until 2014
	<b>Marc Lemaître</b> (Director General - DG REGIO)	Discharge 2015: General budget of the EU - European Commission  on the reservations issued in the 2015 annual activity report by the Commission Directorate General Regional and Urban Policy
	<b>Jerzy Bogdan Plewa</b> (Director General - DG AGRI)  <b>Matthias Ruete</b> (Director General -DG HOME)  <b>Joao Aguiar Machado</b> (Director General - DG MARE)  <b>Irene Souka</b> (Director General - DG HR)  <b>Stefano Manservisi</b> (Director General - DG DEVCO)  <b>Giancarlo Marcheggiano</b> (Secretary-General of European Schools)	Discharge 2015: General budget of the EU - European Commission  on the reservations issued in the 2015 annual activity reports by the Commission Directorates General

Date	Member / Representative	Main Subject
13/10/2016	<b>Kristalina Georgieva (Commissioner for Budget and Human Resources)</b>	European Court of Auditor's Annual Report
	<b>Francisco Merchan Cantos (Director - DG EMPL)</b>	ECA Special Report 14/2016 (2015 Discharge): EU policy initiatives and financial support for Roma integration: significant progress made over the last decade, but additional efforts needed on the ground
	<b>Marco Panigalli (Head of Unit - DG ECHO)</b>	ECA Special Report 15/2016 (2015 Discharge): Did the Commission effectively manage the Humanitarian aid provided to populations affected by conflicts in the African Great Lakes Region?
20/10/2016	<b>Kristalina Georgieva (Commissioner for Budget and Human Resources)</b>  <b>Jeffrey Mason (Acting Director General for Internal Audit Service)</b>  <b>Manfred Kraff (Director-General - DG BUDG)</b>	Discharge 2015: General budget of the EU - European Commission on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•the follow-up to the discharge for the 2014 financial year</li> <li>•the 2015 Annual Management and Performance Report for the EU Budget</li> <li>•the Annual Report to the Discharge Authority on internal audits carried out in 2015</li> <li>•the report on Protection of the EU Budget to end 2015</li> </ul>
07/11/2016	<b>Kristalina Georgieva (Commissioner for Budget and Human Resources)</b>	Annual Report 2015 on the Protection of the EU's Financial Interests - Fight against fraud
	<b>Marie Donnelly (DG ENER)</b>	ECA Special Report 18/2016 (2015 Discharge): The EU system for certification of sustainable biofuels
	<b>Victoria Gil Casado (Head of Unit - DG BUDG)</b>	ECA Special Report 17/2016 (2015 Discharge): The EU Institutions can do more to facilitate access to their public procurement
	<b>Normunds Popens (Deputy Director-General - DG REGIO)</b>	Follow up to CONT delegation to Greece (Sept 2015) - State of play of EU funded priority projects shortlisted by the Task Force for Greece

Date	Member / Representative	Main Subject
	<p><b>Neven Mimica</b> (Commissioner for International Cooperation &amp; Development)</p> <p><b>Johannes Hahn</b> (Commissioner for European Neighbourhood Policy &amp; Enlargement Negotiations)</p>	<p>Discharge 2015: General budget of the EU - European Commission</p> <p>Hearing of Commissioners Mimica and Hahn</p>
	<p><b>Johannes Hahn</b> (Commissioner for European Neighbourhood Policy &amp; Enlargement Negotiations)</p>	<p>Discharge 2015: EU general budget - 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th EDFs</p> <p>Hearing of Commissioner Hahn</p>
	<p><b>Roberto Ridolfi</b> (Director - DG DEVCO)</p>	<p>Discharge 2015: EU general budget - 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th EDFs</p> <p>Presentation of the Annual Report of the Investment Facility</p>
	<p><b>Rudolf Mögele</b> (Deputy Director-General - DG AGRI)</p>	<p>Interparliamentary meeting with National Parliaments: "Towards better spending in shared management: a more cooperative model of parliamentary scrutiny"</p>
28/11/2016	<p><b>Manfred Kraff</b> (Director-General - DG BUDG)</p>	<p>Annual Report 2015 on the Protection of the EU's Financial Interests - Fight against fraud</p> <p>Budgetary Control of financing NGOs from the EU Budget</p>
	<p><b>Luc Bagur</b> (Director - DG DEVCO)</p> <p><b>Mark Johnston</b> (Director - DG NEAR)</p>	<p>The management of EU funds in third countries - Analysis of the reporting and key performance indicators (KPIs) results with regard to 2015 External Assistance Management Reports (EAMR)</p> <p>Co-Chaired with DEVE</p>
	<p><b>Dimitris Avramopoulos</b> (Commissioner for Migration, Home Affairs and Citizenship)</p> <p><b>Matthias Ruete</b> (Director-General - DG HOME)</p>	<p>Discharge 2015: General budget of the EU - European Commission</p> <p>Hearing of Commissioner Avramopoulos</p>

Date	Member / Representative	Main Subject
	<b>Andriana Sukova-Tosheva</b> (Director - DG EMPL)	ECA Special Report 16/2016 (2015 Discharge): EU education objectives: programmes aligned but shortcomings in performance measurement
	<b>Nicholas Martyn</b> (Deputy Director-General - DG REGIO)	ECA Special Report 19/2016 (2015 Discharge): Implementing the EU budget through financial instruments - Lessons to be learnt from the 2007-2013 programme
29/11/2016	<b>Phil Hogan</b> <b>(Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Development)</b>	Discharge 2015: General budget of the EU - European Commission  Hearing of Commissioner Hogan
	<b>Laszlo Csoto</b> (Policy Officer - Relations with the EIB and the EIF - DG ECFIN)	Annual Report on the control of the financial activities of the EIB for 2015
	<b>Gerassimos Thomas</b> (Deputy Director-General - DG ENER)	ECA Special Report 22/2016 (Discharge 2015): EU nuclear decommissioning assistance programmes in Lithuania, Bulgaria and Slovakia: some progress made since 2011 but critical challenges ahead
05/12/2016	<b>Marianne Thyssen</b> <b>(Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labour Mobility)</b>	Discharge 2015: General budget of the EU - European Commission  Hearing of Commissioner Thyssen
	<b>Pascal Leardini</b> (Director - Relations with other Institutions, Secretariat-General)	ECA Special Report 27/2016 (Discharge 2015): Governance at the European Commission — best practice?
	<b>Jean-Louis Ville</b> (Acting Director - DG DEVCO)	Study on "Value for money: EU Programme funding in the field of democracy and rule of law"
08/12/2016	<b>Corina Crețu</b> <b>(Commissioner for Regional Policy)</b>  <b>Nicholas Martyn</b> (Deputy Director-General - DG REGIO)	Discharge 2015: General budget of the EU - European Commission  Hearing of Commissioner Cretu



Date	Member / Representative	Main Subject
	<b>Herald Ruijters</b> (Director - DG MOVE)  <b>Rudolf Niessler</b> (Acting Head of Unit - DG REGIO)	ECA Special Report 23/2016 (2015 Discharge): Maritime transport in the EU: in troubled waters - a proper development of ports failed due to ineffective and unsustainable investment
	<b>Jana Hoskova</b> (Programme Manager - EU policies - DG JUST)	EU funds for gender equality
	<b>Lawrence Meredith</b> (Director - DG NEAR)	ECA Special Report 13/2016 (2015 Discharge): EU Assistance for strengthening the public administration in Moldova  ECA Special Report 20/2016 (Discharge 2015): Strengthening administrative capacity in Montenegro: progress but better results needed in many key areas
09/01/2017	<b>Günther Oettinger</b>	Exchange of views with Günther Oettinger, Member of the European Commission, on the transfer of the portfolio for Budget and Human Resources  <b>Co-Chaired with BUDG and JURI</b>
23/01/2017	<b>Denis Genton</b> (Head of Unit - DG EMPL)	CONT Mission to Italy (18-20 July 2016)
	<b>Pierre Bascou</b> (Director - DG AGRI)	ECA Special report 25/2016 (2015 Discharge): The Land Parcel Identification System: a useful tool to determine the eligibility of agricultural land — but its management could be further improved
	<b>John-F Ryan</b> (Director - DG SANTE)	ECA Special Report No 28/2016 (2015 Discharge): Dealing with serious crossborder threats to health in the EU: important steps taken but more needs to be done
24/01/2017	<b>Carlos Moedas</b> <b>(Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation)</b>	Discharge 2015: General budget of the EU - European Commission  Hearing of Commissioner Moedas
	<b>Massimo Garribba</b> (Director - DG ENER)	Discharge 2015 to the Joint Undertakings

Date	Member / Representative	Main Subject
25/01/2017	<b>Olivier Waelbroeck</b> (Director of the Central Financial Service - DG BUDG)	Financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union
30/01/2017	<b>Federica Mogherini</b> (High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy)	Discharge 2015: General budget of the EU - European External Action Service
	<b>Pierre Bascou</b> (Director - DG AGRI)	ECA Special Report 26/2016 (Discharge 2015): Making cross-compliance more effective and achieving simplification remains challenging
31/01/2017	<b>Alexander Italianer</b> (Secretary-General) <b>Manfred Kraff</b> (Director-General - DG BUDG)	Discharge 2015: General budget of the EU - European Commission Hearing of Alexander Italianer
	<b>Stefano Manservigi</b> (Director-General - DG DEVCO)	Management of the African Peace Facility Co-Chaired with DEVE
	<b>Marc Lemaître</b> (Director-General - DG REGIO)	Systematic problems in shared management of Structural Funds in Romania and Hungary
	<b>Günther Oettinger</b> (Commissioner for Budget and Human Resources)	Discharge 2015: General budget of the EU - European Commission Hearing of Commissioner Oettinger
	<b>Laszlo Csoto</b> (Policy Officer - Relations with the EIB and the EIF - DG ECFIN)	Annual Report on the control of the financial activities of the EIB for 2015
13/02/2017	<b>Peter Wagner</b> (Director DG NEAR)	ECA Special Report 32/2016 (2016 Discharge): EU assistance to Ukraine
		CONT Mission to Ukraine (16 to 19 May 2016)
27/02/2017	<b>Johan Ureel</b> (Acting Director - DG BUDG) <b>Harald Hartung</b> (Head of Unit - DG EAC)	Discharge 2015 to the agencies

Date	Member / Representative	Main Subject
	<b>Alexandra Nikolakopoulou</b> (Head of Unit - DG SANTE)	ECA Special Report 34/2016 (2016 Discharge): Combating Food Waste: an opportunity for the EU to improve the resource-efficiency of the food supply chain
28/02/2017	<b>Franck Sebert</b> (Director - DG REGIO) <b>Georg Haeusler</b> (Director - DG AGRI)	ECA Special Report 36/2016 (2016 Discharge): An assessment of the arrangements for closure of the 2007-2013 cohesion and rural development programmes
	<b>Herwig Ranner</b> (Policy Officer - Climate Change - DG AGRI)	ECA Special report No 31/2016 (2016 Discharge): Spending at least one euro in every five from the EU budget on climate action: ambitious work underway, but at serious risk of falling short
	<b>Luc Bagur</b> (Director - DG DEVCO)	Discharge 2015: EU general budget - 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th EDFs
22/03/2017	<b>Saila Valtonen</b> (Adviser - DG ECFIN)	The implementation of the European Fund for Strategic Investments  Extension of the duration of the European Fund for Strategic Investments as well as the introduction of technical enhancements for that Fund and the European Investment Advisory Hub
	<b>Jose Baiges Planas</b> (Deputy Head of Unit - DG DEVCO) <b>Paulo Martins</b> (Team Leader - Blending and IFI coordination - DG NEAR)	European Fund for Sustainable Development (EFSD) and establishing the EFSD Guarantee and the EFSD Guarantee Fund
	<b>Morten Jung</b> (Head of Unit - DG NEAR)	ECA Special Report 21/2016 (Discharge 2016): EU pre-accession assistance for strengthening administrative capacity in the Western Balkans: A meta-audit
	<b>Vittoria Alliata di Villafranca</b> (Director - DG REGIO)	Study on "Codes of Conduct and conflicts of interest in different levels of governance"
	27/03/2017	<b>Paul Webb</b> (Head of Unit - DG RTD)

Date	Member / Representative	Main Subject
	<b>Maria Rosa Aldea Busquets</b> (Acting Deputy Director-General - DG BUDG)	Budgetary Control of financing NGOs from the EU Budget
	<b>Franck Sebert</b> (Director - DG REGIO)  <b>Karl Soukup</b> (Director - DG COMP)	ECA Special Report 24/2016 (Discharge 2016): More efforts needed to enforce compliance with and raise awareness of State aid rules in cohesion policy
12/04/2017	<b>Max Uebe</b> (Head of Unit - Youth employment, Entrepreneurship, Microfinance Facility - DG EMPL)	ECA Special Report 5/2017 (Discharge 2016): Youth employment - have EU policies made a difference? An assessment of the Youth Guarantee and the Youth Employment Initiative
	<b>Olivier Waelbroeck</b> (Director of the Central Financial Service - DG BUDG)	New funding arrangements between the EU and the World Bank and its effects on the EU Budget

## EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH MEMBERS & REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EUROPEAN COURT OF AUDITORS

**The Committee on Budgetary Control held 50 exchanges of views with Members and Representatives of the European Court of Auditors from May 2016 until April 2017**

Date	Member / Representative	Main Subject
<b>Discharge 2015</b>		
23/05/2016	Neven Mates	<b>ECA Special Report 5/2016:</b> Has the Commission ensured effective implementation of the Services Directive?
24/05/2016	Rasa Budbergytė	<b>ECA Special Report N°1/2016:</b> Is the Commission's system for performance measurement in relation to farmers' incomes well designed and based on sound data?
	George Pufan	<b>ECA Special Report 23/2015:</b> Water quality in the Danube river basin: progress in implementing the Water Framework Directive but still some way to go
13/06/2016	Bettina Jakobsen	<b>ECA Special Report 6/2016:</b> Eradication, control and monitoring programmes to contain animal diseases
14/06/2016	Pietro Russo	<b>ECA Special Report 7/2016:</b> The European External Action Service's management of its buildings around the world
	Baudilio Tomé Muguruza	<b>ECA Special Report 19/2015:</b> More attention to results needed to improve the delivery of technical assistance to Greece
13/07/2016	Ladislav Balko	<b>ECA Special Report 8/2016:</b> Rail freight transport performance in the EU: still not on the right track
	Ville Itälä	<b>ECA Special Report 3/2016:</b> Combatting eutrophication in the Baltic Sea: further and more effective action needed

Date	Member / Representative	Main Subject
26/09/2016	Hans Gustaf Wessberg	<b>ECA Special Report 11/2016:</b> Strengthening administrative capacity in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia: limited progress in a difficult context
12/10/2016	Danièle Lamarque	<b>ECA Special Report 9/2016:</b> EU external migration spending in Southern Mediterranean and Eastern Neighbourhood countries until 2014 Co-Chaired with BUDG
	Rimantas Šadžius	<b>ECA Special Report 12/2016:</b> Agencies use of grants: not always appropriate or demonstrably effective
13/10/2016	Klaus Heiner Lehne Lazaros Lazarou	<b>European Court of Auditor's Annual Report</b>
	Henri Grethen	<b>ECA Special Report 14/2016:</b> EU policy initiatives and financial support for Roma integration: significant progress made over the last decade, but additional efforts needed on the ground
	Karel Pinxten	<b>ECA Special Report 15/2016:</b> Did the Commission effectively manage the Humanitarian aid provided to populations affected by conflicts in the African Great Lakes Region?
20/10/2016	Lazaros Lazarou	Discharge 2015: General budget of the EU - European Commission on •the follow-up to the discharge for the 2014 financial year •the 2015 Annual Management and Performance Report for the EU Budget •the Annual Report to the Discharge Authority on internal audits carried out in 2015 •the report on Protection of the EU Budget to end 2015
07/11/2016	Bettina Jakobsen	<b>ECA Special Report 18/2016:</b> The EU system for certification of sustainable biofuels

Date	Member / Representative	Main Subject
	Alex Brenninkmeijer	<b>ECA Special Report 17/2016:</b> The EU Institutions can do more to facilitate access to their public procurement
	Danièle Lamarque	Discharge 2015: General budget of the EU - European Commission  Hearing of Commissioner Mimica and Hahn
		Discharge 2015: EU general budget - 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th EDFs  Hearing of Commissioner Hahn
	Lazaros Lazarou	Interparliamentary meeting with National Parliaments: "Towards better spending in shared management: a more cooperative model of parliamentary scrutiny"
28/11/2016	Nikolaos Milionis	Discharge 2015: General budget of the EU - European Commission  Hearing of Commissioner Avramoupolos
	Klaus Heiner Lehne	European Court of Auditors (ECA) - Annual work programme 2017
	Iliana Ivanova	<b>ECA Special Report 16/2016:</b> EU education objectives: programmes aligned but shortcomings in performance measurement
<b>ECA Special Report 19/2016:</b> Implementing the EU budget through financial instruments - Lessons to be learnt from the 2007-2013 programme		
29/11/2016	Nikolaos Milionis	Discharge 2015: General budget of the EU - European Commission  Hearing of Commissioner Hogan
	Phil Wynn Owen	<b>ECA Special Report 22/2016:</b> EU nuclear decommissioning assistance programmes in Lithuania, Bulgaria and Slovakia: some progress made since 2011 but critical challenges ahead

Date	Member / Representative	Main Subject
05/12/2016	Iliana Ivanova	Discharge 2015: General budget of the EU - European Commission Hearing of Commissioner Thyssen
	Lazaros S. Lazarou	<b>ECA Special Report 27/2016:</b> Governance at the European Commission — best practice?
08/12/2016	Iliana Ivanova	Discharge 2015: General budget of the EU - European Commission Hearing of Commissioner Cretu
	Oskar Herics	<b>ECA Special Report 23/2016:</b> Maritime transport in the EU: in troubled waters - a proper development of ports failed due to ineffective and unsustainable investment
	Hans Gustaf Wessberg	<b>ECA Special Report 13/2016:</b> EU Assistance for strengthening the public administration in Moldova
<b>ECA Special Report 20/2016:</b> Strengthening administrative capacity in Montenegro: progress but better results needed in many key areas		
09/01/2017	Baudilio Tomé Muguruza Eduardo Ruiz Garcia (ECA Secretary General)	Discharge 2015: EU general budget - Discharge to Other Institutions
23/01/2017	Tony Murphy (Head of Cabinet of Mrs Ivanova)	CONT Mission to Italy (18-20 July 2016)
	Nikolaos Milionis	<b>ECA Special report 25/2016:</b> The Land Parcel Identification System: a useful tool to determine the eligibility of agricultural land — but its management could be further improved
	Janusz Wojciechowski	<b>ECA Special Report No 28/2016:</b> Dealing with serious crossborder threats to health in the EU: important steps taken but more needs to be done



Date	Member / Representative	Main Subject
24/01/2017	Alex Brenninkmeijer	Discharge 2015: General budget of the EU - European Commission Hearing of Commissioner Moedas
30/01/2017	Baudilio Tomé Muguruza	Discharge 2015: General budget of the EU - European External Action Service
	Nikolaos Milionis	<b>ECA Special Report 26/2016:</b> Making cross-compliance more effective and achieving simplification remains challenging
31/01/2017	Baudilio Tomé Muguruza	Discharge 2015: General budget of the EU - European Commission Hearing of Commissioner Italianer
	Lazaros S. Lazarou Kevin Cardiff	Discharge 2015: General budget of the EU - European Commission Hearing of Commissioner Oettinger
<b>Discharge 2016</b>		
13/02/2017	Neven Mates	<b>ECA Special Report 29/2016:</b> Single Supervisory Mechanism - Good start but further improvements needed <i>Co-Chaired with ECON</i>
	Szabolcs Fazakas	<b>ECA Special Report 32/2016:</b> EU assistance to Ukraine
CONT Mission to Ukraine (16 to 19 May 2016)		
27/02/2017	Bettina Jakobsen	<b>ECA Special Report 34/2016:</b> Combating Food Waste: an opportunity for the EU to improve the resource-efficiency of the food supply chain

Date	Member / Representative	Main Subject
28/02/2017	Ladislav Balko	<b>ECA Special Report 36/2016:</b> An assessment of the arrangements for closure of the 2007-2013 cohesion and rural development programmes
	Phil Wynn Owen	<b>ECA Special report No 31/2016:</b> Spending at least one euro in every five from the EU budget on climate action: ambitious work underway, but at serious risk of falling short
	Szabolcs Fazakas	<b>ECA Special Report 21/2016:</b> EU pre-accession assistance for strengthening administrative capacity in the Western Balkans: A meta- audit
27/03/2017	Oskar Herics	<b>ECA Special Report 24/2016:</b> More efforts needed to enforce compliance with and raise awareness of State aid rules in cohesion policy
12/04/2017	Iliana Ivanova	<b>ECA Special Report 5/2017:</b> Youth employment - have EU policies made a difference? An assessment of the Youth Guarantee and the Youth Employment Initiative

## EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH THE SECRETARY GENERAL AND OTHER REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

The Committee on Budgetary Control held **3 exchanges of views with representatives of the European Parliament** from May 2016 until April 2017

Date	EP representative	Main Subject
20/10/2016	<b>Klaus Welle</b> (Secretary General)	Follow-up of the 2014 discharge to the European Parliament
24/01/2017	<b>Didier Klethi</b> (Director-General for Finances, DG FINS)  <b>Eduard Reijnders</b> (Director for Political Structures Financing and Resources, DG FINS)  <b>Helmut Betz</b> (Head of Political Structures Financing Unit, DG FINS)  <b>Robert Galvin</b> (Internal Auditor)  <b>Michael Adam</b> (Authority for European Political Parties and European Political Foundations)	Workshop on the Financing European Political Parties and Foundations  <b>Held in camera</b>
30/01/2017	<b>David-Maria Sassoli</b> (Vice-President with responsibility for the budget)  <b>Klaus Welle</b> (Secretary-General)  <b>Robert Galvin</b> (Internal Auditor)	Discharge 2015 to the European Parliament

# EXCHANGES OF VIEWS WITH THE PRESIDENCY OF THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

The Committee on Budgetary Control held **1 exchange of views with the Presidency of the Council of the European Union** on 28 February 2017

Exchange of views with	Main Subject
<p><b>Edward Scicluna</b> <b>Maltese Minister for Finance</b></p> <p>(Maltese Presidency of the Council)</p>	<p><b>2015 Discharges: Presentation of the Council recommendations</b></p> <p>in the presence of the Commissioner responsible for Budget and Human Resources, <b>Günther Oettinger</b></p>

## EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF OLAF

The Committee on Budgetary Control held **2 exchange of views with the Director-General of OLAF, 1 exchange of views with Members of the OLAF SC and 6 exchange of views with representatives of OLAF** from May 2016 until April 2017

Date	Representative	Main Subject
23/05/2016	<b>Tuomas Pöysti</b> (Chairman of the OLAF Supervisory Committee)  <b>Johan Denolf</b> (Member of the OLAF Supervisory Committee)  <b>Margarete Hofmann</b> (Director - OLAF D)	2015 Annual Activity Report of OLAF Supervisory Committee
13/06/2016	<b>Giovanni Kessler</b> (Director General of OLAF)	The OLAF report 2015
13/07/2016	<b>Giovanni Kessler</b> (Director General of OLAF)	Hearing on "Corporate VAT fraud"
26/09/2016	<b>Corinna Ullrich</b> (Head of Unit - OLAF)	The role of whistle-blowers in the protection of EU's financial interests
07/11/2016	<b>Margarete Hofmann</b> (Director - OLAF D)  <b>Andrea Bordoni</b> (OLAF)	Annual Report 2015 on the Protection of the EU's Financial Interests - Fight against fraud
28/11/2016	<b>Corinna Ullrich</b> (Head of Unit - OLAF)	Chair's report to the committee on the result of the trilogue on the joint CONTLIBE report "Fight against fraud to the Union's financial interests by means of criminal law" - 23 November 2016
	<b>Franck Michlik</b> (OLAF)  <b>Maria Ntzioumi-Doumas</b> (OLAF)  <b>Andrea Bordoni</b> (OLAF)	Annual Report 2015 on the Protection of the EU's Financial Interests - Fight against fraud

Date	Representative	Main Subject
31/01/2017	<b>Margarete Hofmann</b> (Director - OLAF D)	Annual Report 2015 on the Protection of the EU's Financial Interests - Fight against fraud
22/03/2017	<b>Maria Ntziouni-Doumas</b> (Deputy Head of Unit - OLAF)	Study on "Codes of Conduct and conflicts of interest in different levels of governance"

## EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE AGENCIES, THE JOINT UNDERTAKINGS AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS

The Committee on Budgetary Control held **12 exchanges of views with 26 Representatives of the Agencies, the Joint Undertakings and other institutions** from May 2016 until April 2017

Date	Representative	Main Subject
14/06/2016	<b>Gianmarco Di Vita</b> (Director General - Budget and Administration - European External Action Service)	ECA Special Report 7/2016 (2015 Discharge): The European External Action Service's management of its buildings around the world
	<b>Cormac Murphy</b> (Head of Division for Infrastructure New Products & Special Transactions - European Investment Bank)	Exchange of views with the European Investment Bank on the Castor project, as part of the Project Bond Initiative (PBI)
	<b>Sanjoy Rajan</b> (Head of Division for Renewable Energy - European Investment Bank)	
	<b>Neil Valentine</b> (Head of Division for Strategic Railways - European Investment Bank)	
04/07/2016	<b>Johannes Schwemmer</b> (Director of Fusion for Energy Joint Undertaking)	Position of the European Commission and the Fusion for Energy Joint Undertaking on the ITER Project progress in light of the recent ITER Council conclusions
26/09/2016	<b>Martin Kern</b> (Interim Director - European Institute of Innovation and Technology)	ECA Special Report 4/2016 (2015 Discharge): The European Institute of Innovation and Technology must modify its delivery mechanisms and elements of its design to achieve the expected impact
07/11/2016	<b>Luca Lazzaroli</b> (Director General and Deputy Head of Operations of the European Investment Bank for Operations outside the EU)	Discharge 2015: EU general budget - 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th EDFs  Presentation of the Annual Report of the Investment Facility

Date	Representative	Main Subject
29/11/2016	<p><b>Andrew Mc Dowell</b> (Vice-President - European Investment Bank)</p> <p><b>Mikołaj Dowgielewicz</b> (Director General - Head of Brussels Office and Representative to the EU institutions - European Investment Bank)</p>	Annual Report on the control of the financial activities of the EIB for 2015
09/01/2017	<p><b>Alfredo Calot Escobar</b> (Registrar - European Court of Justice)</p> <p><b>Eduardo Ruiz Garcia</b> (Secretary General - European Court of Auditors)</p> <p><b>Luis Planas Puchades</b> (Secretary General - European Economic and Social Committee)</p> <p><b>Jiří Buriánek</b> (Secretary General - Committee of the Regions)</p> <p><b>Beate Gminder</b> (Secretary General - Ombudsman)</p> <p><b>Christopher Docksey</b> (Director - European Data Protection Supervisor)</p>	2015 Discharge to Other Institutions
24/01/2017	<p><b>Christian Archambeau</b> (Vice-President - European Union Intellectual Property Office)</p> <p><b>Fabrice Leggeri</b> (Executive Director - FRONTEX)</p> <p><b>Martin Kern</b> (Director - European Institute of Innovation and Technology )</p> <p><b>Noel Wathion</b> (Deputy Executive Director - European Medicines Agency)</p> <p><b>Adam Farkas</b> (Executive Director - European Banking Authority)</p>	Discharge 2015 to the Agencies



Date	Representative	Main Subject
	<p><b>PhiliEPP Mengal</b> (Executive Director - Bio-based Industries)</p> <p><b>Bert De Colvenar</b> (Executive Director - Electronic Components and Systems for European Leadership)</p> <p><b>Johannes Schwemmer</b> (Director - Fusion for Energy )</p>	Discharge 2015 to the Joint Undertakings
31/01/2017	<p><b>Mikołaj Dowgielewicz</b> (Director General - Head of Brussels Office and Representative to the EU institutions - European Investment Bank)</p>	Annual Report on the control of the financial activities of the EIB for 2015
13/02/2017	<p><b>Sabine Lautenschläger</b> (Member of the Executive Board - European Central Bank)</p>	ECA Special Report 29/2016: Single Supervisory Mechanism - Good start but further improvements needed
22/03/2017	<p><b>Francesca Raimondi</b> (Policy Officer - European External Action Service)</p>	European Fund for Sustainable Development (EFSD) and establishing the EFSD Guarantee and the EFSD Guarantee Fund

## EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH SPECIAL GUESTS AND BODIES

The Committee on Budgetary Control held **5 exchanges of views with 12 special guests and bodies** from May 2016 until April 2017

Date	Special Guest	In the context of
05/09/2016	<b>Mathias Burhart</b> (UNWRA)	CONT mission to Jordan and Lebanon (20-23 September 2016)
26/09/2016	<b>Alojz Peterle</b> (Chair of the EP Delegation to the EU former-Yugoslav-Republic-of-Macedonia-JPC)	ECA Special Report 11/2016 (2015 Discharge): Strengthening administrative capacity in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia: limited progress in a difficult context
07/11/2016	<b>Olivier Parnet</b> (Director - TNS Opinion Research)	LUX Film Prize survey: follow-up of the paragraph 59 of the resolution related to the European Parliament 2013 discharge procedure  <i>Item co-chaired with Silvia Costa, Chair of Committee on Culture and Education</i>
	<p><b>Thomas Schmidt</b> (State Minister of agriculture and Environment of Land Saxony, Deutschland)</p> <p><b>Ulisses Pereira</b> (Vice Chair of the Committee on Agriculture and Sea, Assembleia da Republica, Portugal)</p> <p><b>Gerasimos Balaouras</b> (Chair of the Committee on Economic Affairs, Hellenic Parliament)</p> <p><b>Claudio Martini</b> (Committee on European Policies, Senato della Republica, Italia)</p> <p><b>Eric Van Rompuy</b> (Chair of the Committee of Finance and Budget, Kamer van Volksvertegenwoordigers, België)</p>	Interparliamentary meeting with National Parliaments: "Towards better spending in shared management: a more cooperative model of parliamentary scrutiny"

Date	Special Guest	In the context of
	<p><b>Agata Borowiec</b> (Committee on European Union, Sejm, Polska)</p> <p><b>Olavi Ala- Nissila</b> (Vice-Chair of the Audit Committee, Eduskunta, Suomi)</p> <p><b>Aleksandrs Kiršteins</b> (Committee on European Affairs, Saeima, Latvia)</p>	
23/01/2017	<p><b>Tim de Meyer</b> (Deloitte)</p>	<p>The costs of each euro from the EU budget to implement EU policies in different Member States: Mastering implementation costs of European grants</p> <p>Deloitte presented the findings of the study commissioned by BUDG</p>

## **2. HEARINGS HELD IN THE FRAMEWORK OF A NOMINATION PROCEDURE, PUBLIC HEARINGS AND WORKSHOPS**



## HEARING OF THE CANDIDATES FOR THE NOMINATION AS MEMBER OF THE EUROPEAN COURT OF AUDITORS

The Committee on Budgetary Control held **7 hearings for the nomination as Member of the European Court of Auditors** from May 2016 until April 2017

Date	Candidate	Nominating country
23/05/2016	<b>Rimantas Šadžius</b>	Lithuania
05/09/2016	<b>Lazaros S. Lazarou</b> (renewal of mandate) <b>Leo Brincat - rejected</b> <b>João Figueiredo</b> - nominated as replacement of Vitor Caldeira	Cyprus Malta Portugal
05/12/2016	<b>Juhan Parts</b>	Estonia
12/04/2017	<b>Ildikó Gáll-Pelcz</b>	Hungary

## PUBLIC HEARINGS

The Committee on Budgetary Control held **2 public hearings** from May 2016 until April 2017

Hearing Title	Rapporteur(s)	Date	Experts
<p><b>Protection of the financial interests of the European Union: the role of investigative journalism, watchdog NGOs and multimedia actions</b></p>	<p>Ines Ayala Sender (S&amp;D)</p> <p>Benedek Jávor (Greens)</p>	<p>24/05/2016</p>	<p><b>Brigitte Alfter</b> (Editor Europe - Journalismfund.eu)</p> <p><b>Tamas Bodoky</b> (Editor-in-chief - Atlatzo.hu)</p> <p><b>Petr Holub</b> (Journalist - Echo24.cz)</p> <p><b>Daniela Schröder</b> (Independent writer and editor)</p> <p><b>Carl Dolan</b> (Director - Transparency International)</p> <p><b>Lucia Recalde Langarica</b> (Head of Unit - DG CONNECT)</p> <p><b>Martin Pigeon</b> (Researcher and campaigner - Corporate European Observatory)</p> <p><b>Jos Dings</b> (Executive Director - Transport and Environment)</p> <p><b>Michael Peters</b> (Chief Executive Officer - Euronews)</p> <p><b>Erlends Calabuig</b> (Chief Executive Officer - Euranet Plus)</p>
<p><b>Corporate VAT fraud</b></p>	<p>Andrey Novakov (EPP)</p>	<p>13/07/2016</p>	<p><b>Stephen Quest</b> (Director-General - DG TAXUD)</p> <p><b>Giovanni Kessler</b> (Director General - OLAF)</p> <p><b>Caroline Edery</b> (Head of Unit - DG TAXUD)</p> <p><b>Jarkko Liljander</b> (Finnish Tax Administration)</p> <p><b>Stephane Buydens</b> (VAT Policy Advisor - OECD)</p> <p><b>Benoît Pernet</b> (Director Indirect tax department - KPMG)</p>

## WORKSHOPS

The Committee on Budgetary Control held **6 workshops** from May 2016 until April 2017

Workshop Title	Rapporteur	Date	Speakers
<p><b>Follow-up of CONT Delegation to Greece. How to improve land expropriation decisions?</b></p>	Ingeborg Gräßle (EPP)	14/06/2016	<p><b>Willebrordus Sluitjers</b> (Head of Unit - DG REGIO)</p> <p><b>Sébastien Renaud</b> (SG)</p> <p><b>Chryssy Potsiou</b> (Professor)</p> <p><b>George Delis</b> (Ministry of Infrastructure, Transportation and Networks in Greece)</p> <p><b>Andreas Psathas</b> (Ministry of Economy in Greece).</p>
<p><b>Joint workshop with BUDG</b></p> <p><b>Mid-Term Revision of the Financial Regulation: Improvement of Direct Management and Outlook on the Commission Proposal</b></p>	Co-Chairs: Ingeborg Gräßle Jean Arthuis	11/07/2016	<p><b>Olivier Waelbroeck</b> (European Commission, DG Budget, Director Central Financial Service)</p> <p><b>Lazaros Lazarou</b> (Member of the ECA)</p> <p><b>Muriel Attané</b> (EARTO Secretary General)</p> <p><b>Wolfgang Suttne</b> (Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft, Chair of the EARTO working group on financial issues)</p> <p><b>Thomas Estermann</b> (EUA Director Governance, Funding and Public Policy Development)</p> <p><b>Prof. Hüseyin Fırat</b> (President and CEO of Firalis)</p> <p><b>Dr Ludwig Kronthaler</b> (MPG Secretary General)</p> <p><b>Patrick Child</b> (European Commission, Deputy Director-General DG Research and Innovation)</p> <p><b>Christian Ehler MEP</b> (Member of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy and rapporteur for the rules for participation in Horizon 2020)</p>



Workshop Title	Rapporteur	Date	Speakers
<p><b>Protection of the EU's Financial Interest – Recovery of Money and Assets from Third-Countries in Fraud Cases</b></p>	<p>Cătălin-Sorin Ivan (S&amp;D)</p>	<p>13/10/2016</p>	<p><b>Marcella van Berkel</b> (Manager of the Camden Assets Recovery Inter-Agency Network (CARIN) Secretariat, Europol)</p> <p><b>Sebastian Bley</b> (Coordinator Anti-Corruption, Anti-corruption and Financial Crimes (AFC), Interpol)</p> <p><b>Daniel Thelesklaf</b> (Chairman of MONEYVAL (The Committee of Experts on the Evaluation of Anti-Money Laundering Measures and the Financing of Terrorism, Council of Europe); Director of Financial Intelligence Unit, Principality of Liechtenstein)</p> <p><b>Nicolae-Cătălin Davidescu</b> (Head of Division for Monitoring of International Sanctions Enforcement, Prevention of Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing at the National Bank of Romania (BNR))</p> <p><b>Roxana Popescu</b> (Managing Director of “KeysFin srl”, Romania)</p>
<p><b>Financing European Political Parties and Foundations</b></p> <p><b>Held in camera</b></p>	<p>Dennis de Jong (GUE/NGL)</p>	<p>24/01/2017</p>	<p><b>Didier Klethi</b> (Director-General for Finances, DG FINS, European Parliament)</p> <p><b>Eduard Reijnders</b> (Director for Political Structures Financing and Resources, DG FINS, European Parliament)</p> <p><b>Helmut Betz</b> (Head of Political Structures Financing Unit, DG FINS, European Parliament)</p> <p><b>Danielle Vermaelen</b> (Auditor, Coordinator at the Centre of Excellence for the Audit of EU Funds, Ernst &amp; Young Belgium)</p> <p><b>Robert Galvin</b> (Internal Auditor, European Parliament)</p> <p><b>Michael Adam</b> (Authority for European Political Parties and European Political Foundations, European Parliament)</p>

Workshop Title	Rapporteur	Date	Speakers
<p><b>NGO's financing from the EU Budget</b></p>	<p>Markus Pieper (EPP)</p>	<p>06/02/2017</p>	<p><b>Yiannos Asimakis</b> (Head of Unit for Financial Report and Strategy, Budget Execution, DG Budget, European Commission)</p> <p><b>Victoria Gil Casado</b> (Head of Unit for Programme Management and Implementing Contracts, Central Financial Service, DG Budget, European Commission)</p> <p><b>Roderick Ackermann, Elsa Perreau</b> (Blomeyer&amp;Sanz)</p> <p><b>Jean-Louis Ville</b> (Director for Directorate B Human Development and Migration, DG for International Cooperation and Development, European Commission)</p> <p><b>Christian Strasser</b> (Deputy Head of Unit, LIFE Programme, DG for Environment, European Commission)</p> <p><b>Dennis Wernerus</b> (Senior Auditor, European Court of Auditors)</p> <p><b>Thomas Heckeberg</b> (Director at the European Network for Education and Training (EUNET), member of the Civil Society Europe (CSE), on behalf of the latter)</p> <p><b>Kathrin Schick</b> (Director, Voluntary Organisation in Cooperation in Emergencies (VOICE))</p> <p><b>Seamus Jeffreson</b> (Director, Confederation for Relief and Development (Concord))</p> <p><b>Jeremy Wates</b> (Secretary-General of the European Environmental Bureau, member of Green 10)</p>

Workshop Title	Rapporteur	Date	Speakers
<p><b>Joint workshop with BUDG</b></p> <p><b>Revision of the Financial Regulation: Towards an efficient and effective budget cycle</b></p>	<p>Co-Chairs: Ingeborg Gräßle Jean Arthuis</p>	<p>21/03/2017</p>	<p><b>Lazaros Lazarou</b> (Member of the ECA)</p> <p><b>Dr. Matthias Boll</b> (Ministry of Social Affairs and Integration Baden-Württemberg)</p> <p><b>Jorge Núñez Ferrer</b> (CEPS Senior Research Fellow)</p> <p><b>François Monnard</b> (Head of Finance EFSA)</p> <p><b>Dr Edward Best</b> (Head of Unit “European Decision-Making”)</p> <p><b>Lukáš Wagenknecht</b> (Chairman of the Czech NGO “Good Governance”)</p> <p><b>Olivier Waelbroeck</b> (European Commission, DG Budget, Director Central Financial Service)</p>

### **3. ANNUAL MEETING WITH THE COURT OF AUDITORS AND MISSIONS**



## ANNUAL MEETING WITH THE COURT OF AUDITORS

The Committee on Budgetary Control held its annual meeting with the Court of Auditors on **14 November 2016**

Location	CONT MEPs present
Luxembourg, in the premises of the ECA	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="491 539 815 573">1. Ingeborg Gräßle (EPP)</li><li data-bbox="491 607 794 640">2. Petri Sarvamaa (EPP)</li><li data-bbox="491 674 847 707">3. Tomas Zdechovský (EPP)</li><li data-bbox="491 741 834 775">4. Inés Ayala Sender (S&amp;D)</li><li data-bbox="491 808 855 842">5. Martina Dlabajová (ALDE)</li><li data-bbox="491 875 831 909">6. Benedek Javor (Greens)</li></ol>

## MISSIONS

The Committee on Budgetary Control held **5 missions** from May 2016 until April 2017

Destination	Date	CONT Members	Accompanying Members
<b>Ukraine</b>	15-19 May 2016	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Ingeborg Gräßle (EPP, Head of mission)</b></li> <li>2. Joachim Zeller (EPP)</li> <li>3. Derek Vaughan (S&amp;D)</li> <li>4. Ryszard Czarnecki (ECR)</li> </ol>	
<b>Italy</b>	18-20 July 2016	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Martina Dlabajová (ALDE, Head of mission)</b></li> <li>2. Inés Ayala Sender (S&amp;D)</li> <li>3. Marco Valli (EFDD)</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Giovanni La Via (EPP)</li> <li>2. Catarina Chinnici (S&amp;D)</li> <li>3. Andrea Cozzolino (S&amp;D)</li> <li>4. Michela Giuffrida (S&amp;D)</li> <li>5. Laura Agea (EFDD)</li> </ol>
<b>Lebanon and Jordan</b>	20-23 September 2016	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Ingeborg Gräßle (EPP, Head of mission)</b></li> <li>2. Tomáš Zdechovský (EPP)</li> <li>3. Claudia Schmidt (EPP)</li> <li>4. Joachim Zeller (EPP)</li> <li>5. Caterina Chinnici (S&amp;D)</li> <li>6. Ryszard Czarnecki (ECR)</li> <li>7. Martina Dlabajova (ALDE)</li> </ol>	
<b>Turkey</b>	1-4 November 2016	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Ingeborg Gräßle (EPP, Head of mission)</b></li> <li>2. Tomáš Zdechovský (EPP, CS)</li> <li>3. Markus Pieper (EPP, DE)</li> <li>4. Joachim Zeller (EPP, DE)</li> <li>5. Inés Ayala Sender (S&amp;D, ES)</li> <li>6. Georgi Pirinski (S&amp;D, BG)</li> </ol>	
<b>Poland</b>	18-20 April 2017	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Ingeborg Gräßle (EPP, Head of mission)</b></li> <li>2. Andrey Novakov (EPP)</li> <li>3. Derek Vaughan (S&amp;D)</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Julia Pitera (EPP)</li> <li>2. Bogusław Liberadzki (S&amp;D)</li> <li>3. Ryszard Czarnecki (ECR)</li> </ol>

**V. EXTERNAL STUDIES - PROVIDED BY THE POLICY DEPARTMENT D  
ON BUDGETARY AFFAIRS**





## EXTERNAL STUDIES

The Committee on Budgetary Control requested **7 external studies** from May 2016 until April 2017

Title of the Study	Rapporteur	Date of presentation to CONT Committee	Experts
<b>How EU and Member States manage data transparency and accessibility on EU funds</b>	Marco Valli (EFDD)	14/07/2016	<b>Dr Jorge Núñez Ferrer</b> (Centre for European Policy Studies)  <b>Katharina Ehrhart</b> (LSE Enterprise)  <b>Chantal Marijnissen</b> (Head of Unit - DG DEVCO)  <b>Anthony Lockett</b> (Deputy head of communication unit - DG REGIO)
<b>Public sector reform and how the EU budget is used to encourage reform in this regard</b>	Brian Hayes (EPP)	26/09/2016	<b>Freidrich Heinemman</b> (Centre for European Economic Research)  <b>Eulalia Rubio</b> (Jacques Delors Institute)  <b>Fabian Zuleeg</b> (European Policy Centre)  <b>Florian Hauser</b> (DG EMPL)
<b>Turkey: how the pre-adhesion funds have been spent and the monitoring system</b>	Marco Valli (EFDD)	12/10/2016	<b>Roderick Ackermann</b> (Contractor)  <b>Simon Mordue</b> (Deputy Director General - DG NEAR)  <b>Elsa Perreau</b> (C-ontractor)
<b>Democratic Accountability and Budgetary Control of Non-Governmental Organisations Funded by the EU Budget</b>	Markus Pieper (EPP)	28/11/2016	<b>Roderick Ackermann</b> (Bloyemer & Sanz)  <b>Manfred Kraff</b> (Director-General - DG BUDG)

Title of the Study	Rapporteur	Date of presentation to CONT Committee	Experts
<b>Value for money: EU Programme funding in the field of democracy and rule of law</b>	Ingeborg Gräßle (EPP)	05/12/2016	<b>Tom Ling</b> (RAND Corporation) <b>Ben Baruch</b> (RAND Corporation)
<b>The use of EU funds in Member States in partnership with companies (contractors or subcontractors) outside of a given Member State</b>	Ryszard Czarnecki (ECR)	23/01/2017	<b>Tim de Meyer</b> (Deloitte)
<b>Codes of Conduct and conflicts of interest in different levels of governance</b>	Martina Dlabajová (ALDE)	22/03/2017	<b>Mike Beke</b> (Blomeyer & Sanz) <b>Thomas Henökl</b> (Blomeyer & Sanz) <b>Christoph Demmke</b> (Blomeyer & Sanz) <b>Marcin Waszak</b> (Blomeyer & Sanz)





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Budgetary Control Website  
<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/committees/en/cont/>

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**COMMITTEE ON BUDGETARY CONTROL**

Directorate-General for Internal Policies of the Union