

Amendment 22**Lara Wolters**

on behalf of the S&D Group

Report**Petri Sarvamaa**

2019 Discharge: EU general budget - European Parliament

2020/2141(DEC)

A9-0044/2021**Motion for a resolution****Paragraph 16***Motion for a resolution*

16. Regrets that not all necessary actions have been taken in response to some of their recommendations in Parliament's resolution on discharge for 2018, and that the discharge follow-up document does not provide any justification for this; stresses that the Secretary-General should have regular discussions with Parliament's Committee on Budgetary Control on issues concerning Parliament's budget and its implementation; considers that these should take place throughout the year and not only during the discharge procedure;

Amendment

16. Regrets that not all necessary actions have been taken in response to some of their recommendations in Parliament's resolution on discharge for 2018, and that the discharge follow-up document does not provide any justification for this; ***asks the Secretary-General to forward to the Bureau all requests for action included in the annual discharge resolutions, to establish an action plan to address and follow up on the recommendations, and to include the results of this exercise in the annual activity reports;*** stresses that the Secretary-General ***and the Vice-President responsible for Budget*** should have regular discussions with Parliament's Committee on Budgetary Control on issues concerning Parliament's budget and its implementation; considers that these should take place throughout the year and not only during the discharge procedure; ***reiterates its call on the Bureau to improve the transparency of its decision-making procedure, particularly with regard to the timely publication of relevant documents and information on its website;***

Or. en

22.4.2021

A9-0044/23

Amendment 23

Lara Wolters

on behalf of the S&D Group

Report

Petri Sarvamaa

2019 Discharge: EU general budget - European Parliament

2020/2141(DEC)

A9-0044/2021

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 20

Motion for a resolution

20. Regrets the lack of gender balance among **Bureau staff**; recognises however the positive developments in this regard and acknowledges the new targets; recognises the need for continuous monitoring on the topic;

Amendment

20. Regrets the lack of gender balance among **management in Parliament's administration**; recognises however the positive developments in this regard and acknowledges the new targets; recognises the need for continuous monitoring on the topic;

Or. en

22.4.2021

A9-0044/24

Amendment 24

Lara Wolters

on behalf of the S&D Group

Report

Petri Sarvamaa

2019 Discharge: EU general budget - European Parliament

2020/2141(DEC)

A9-0044/2021

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 31 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

31 a. Reaffirms the need to implement the provisions of the Staff Regulation concerning the deadline for applying for the resettlement allowance on an equal footing for all categories of staff; calls on DG PERS to look in particular into the cases of former APAs where the statutory deadline was not applied correctly at the end of the parliamentary term in July 2019;

Or. en

Amendment 25**Lara Wolters**

on behalf of the S&D Group

Report**Petri Sarvamaa**

2019 Discharge: EU general budget - European Parliament

2020/2141(DEC)

A9-0044/2021**Motion for a resolution****Paragraph 33***Motion for a resolution*

33. Welcomes the successful completion, in 2019, of new working environments for Members in Brussels and Strasbourg; commends the fact that the refurbishment of all Members' offices in Brussels (1 personal office per Member + 2 staff offices) and in Strasbourg (1 personal office + 1 staff office) was carried out ***in record time and*** ahead of schedule, as well as coming in under the works budget amount allocated to it, ***and that new furniture equipment, including integrated IT solutions has been installed at a lower cost than originally foreseen***; notes that the revised office allocation plan for Members and political groups was based on the most efficient use of available office space; regrets that this principle has led to some political groups to have their Members scattered in different buildings and floors with no logical connection, breaking the unity of political groups; also regrets that the distribution of offices to political groups has pushed some to relocate to external buildings no longer connected to the main Parliament activities, thus creating a structural separation of staff from Members; takes note that Trèves 1 building is deficient in services and priority should be given to find solutions to connect it to the main buildings;

Amendment

33. Welcomes the successful completion, in 2019, of new working environments for Members in Brussels and Strasbourg; commends the fact that the refurbishment of all Members' offices in Brussels (1 personal office per Member + 2 staff offices) and in Strasbourg (1 personal office + 1 staff office) was carried out ahead of schedule, as well as coming in under the works budget amount allocated to it; ***regrets, however, that the explicit and repeated recommendation of Parliament about the unnecessary refurbishment was disregarded***; notes that the revised office allocation plan for Members and political groups was based on the most efficient use of available office space; regrets that this principle has led to some political groups to have their Members scattered in different buildings and floors with no logical connection, breaking the unity of political groups; also regrets that the distribution of offices to political groups has pushed some to relocate to external buildings no longer connected to the main Parliament activities, thus creating a structural separation of staff from Members; takes note that Trèves 1 building is deficient in services and priority should be given to find solutions to connect it to the main buildings;

Or. en

Amendment 26**Lara Wolters**

on behalf of the S&D Group

Report**Petri Sarvamaa**

2019 Discharge: EU general budget - European Parliament

2020/2141(DEC)

A9-0044/2021**Motion for a resolution****Paragraph 35***Motion for a resolution*

35. Regrets the fact that there is no system in place to ensure that Members who are temporarily absent for a justified reason, such as maternity leave, parental leave, long-term sick leave or carer's leave, can continue to carry out their core duties, first and foremost to speak in debates and to vote; calls on the Bureau to examine the possibilities for facilitating continuation of remote participation and for providing for the substitution of a Member - whether female or male - while on parental leave and in the above mentioned cases;

Amendment

35. Regrets the fact that there is no system in place to ensure that Members who are temporarily absent for a justified reason, such as maternity leave, parental leave, long-term sick leave or carer's leave, can continue to carry out their core duties, first and foremost to speak in debates and to vote; ***is of the opinion that this is at odds with core values of the Union because it implies that a vote on a female candidate may lead to temporary non-representation***; calls on the Bureau to examine the possibilities for facilitating continuation of remote participation and for providing for the substitution of a Member - whether female or male - while on parental leave and in the above mentioned cases; ***calls on the Council to amend Article 6 of the Act concerning the election of the members of the European Parliament by direct universal suffrage (European Electoral Act) in order to remedy the situation concerning parental leave; calls on the Bureau to amend the Rules of Procedure accordingly***;

Or. en

22.4.2021

A9-0044/27

Amendment 27

Lara Wolters

on behalf of the S&D Group

Report

Petri Sarvamaa

2019 Discharge: EU general budget - European Parliament
2020/2141(DEC)

A9-0044/2021

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 36 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

36 a. Acknowledges that the agreement between Parliament, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions has brought financial and administrative benefits which contribute to the sound financial management of the institutions concerned; reiterates, however, that in the Committees' opinion this agreement is unbalanced and hasn't been respected by Parliament in its entirety; believes that an extension or revision of the current agreement must settle all the outstanding issues; asks the institutions concerned to jointly report to Parliament's Committee on Budgetary Control on this agreement and its ongoing revision;

Or. en

Amendment 28**Lara Wolters**

on behalf of the S&D Group

Report**Petri Sarvamaa**

2019 Discharge: EU general budget - European Parliament

2020/2141(DEC)

A9-0044/2021**Motion for a resolution****Paragraph 50***Motion for a resolution*

50. ***Stresses that any new decisions taken concerning*** parliamentary support to the European Union Mission to ASEAN in Jakarta, the European Union delegation to the African Union in Addis Ababa and the European Union Delegation to the United Nations in New York, must be based on a thorough cost-benefit analysis; ***acknowledges that the Secretary-General intends to put in place*** measurable indicators to assess annual performance under the framework of Parliament's strategic planning, monitoring and reporting cycle;

Amendment

50. ***Recalls the concern already expressed last year about the Bureau decision of 11 February 2019 regarding*** parliamentary support to the European Union Mission to ASEAN in Jakarta, the European Union delegation to the African Union in Addis Ababa and the European Union Delegation to the United Nations in New York; ***stresses that any new decision taken*** must be based on a thorough cost-benefit analysis ***and reiterates that given the specific nature of this parliamentary support, Parliament's Committee on Budgetary Control should be provided with pertinent detailed information; regrets that*** measurable indicators to assess annual performance under the framework of Parliament's strategic planning, monitoring and reporting cycle ***have not yet been created; asks the Secretary-General to urgently perform this assessment and present it to both Parliament's Committee on Budgets and Committee on Budgetary Control as it becomes available;***

Or. en

Amendment 29**Lara Wolters**

on behalf of the S&D Group

Report**Petri Sarvamaa**

2019 Discharge: EU general budget - European Parliament

2020/2141(DEC)

A9-0044/2021**Motion for a resolution****Paragraph 54***Motion for a resolution*

54. Notes that the revised rules governing the payment of financial contributions for sponsored visitors' groups entered into force on 1 January 2017; recalls that, in accordance with the principle of non-profit enshrined in these rules, heads of groups have an obligation to return any unused financial contribution after verification by Parliament's services of a financial declaration; seeks greater assurance that the management of sponsored visitors' groups is strictly in accordance with the applicable rules, including the reimbursement process of costs related to visitors with disabilities ;

Amendment

54. Notes that the revised rules governing the payment of financial contributions for sponsored visitors' groups entered into force on 1 January 2017; recalls that, in accordance with the principle of non-profit enshrined in these rules, heads of groups have an obligation to return any unused financial contribution after verification by Parliament's services of a financial declaration; seeks greater assurance that the management of sponsored visitors' groups is strictly in accordance with the applicable rules, including the reimbursement process of costs related to visitors with disabilities; ***reiterates its call to remove the possibility of appointing APAs as head of group in order to make the financial responsibility of sponsored visitors' groups fall exclusively to a member of the group or to professionals, i.e. paying agents or travel agencies;***

Or. en

Amendment 30**Lara Wolters**

on behalf of the S&D Group

Report**Petri Sarvamaa**

2019 Discharge: EU general budget - European Parliament

2020/2141(DEC)

A9-0044/2021**Motion for a resolution****Paragraph 71***Motion for a resolution*

71. Highlights recent media reports that the thermal cameras in use in Parliament's premises for measuring the temperature of all persons entering Parliament are produced by Hikvision, a company importing and producing cameras *from* Xinjiang province in China⁵ ; recalls that Hikvision has been accused of providing surveillance equipment to internment camps in this province⁶ ; notes that there is an unacceptable risk that Hikvision, through its operations in Xinjiang, is contributing to serious human rights abuses; recalls that Parliament awarded the 2019 Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought to Ilham Tohti for his efforts to protect the rights of the Uyghur population in China; considers the use of thermal cameras of this provider in Parliament's premises therefore to be unacceptable; calls on the Secretary-General to terminate the contract with Hikvision and remove all of Hikvision's thermal cameras from Parliament's premises; stresses the need for the *Bureau* to be more prudent in the selection of equipment providers in the future;

⁵ <https://www.dw.com/en/exclusive-eu-taps-chinese-technology-linked-to-muslim-internment-camps-in-xinjiang/a-55362125>

⁶

Amendment

71. Highlights recent media reports that the thermal cameras in use in Parliament's premises for measuring the temperature of all persons entering Parliament are produced by Hikvision, a company importing *from China* and producing cameras *for* Xinjiang province in China⁵ ; recalls that Hikvision has been accused of providing surveillance equipment to internment camps in this province⁶ ; notes that there is an unacceptable risk that Hikvision, through its operations in Xinjiang, is contributing to serious human rights abuses; recalls that Parliament awarded the 2019 Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought to Ilham Tohti for his efforts to protect the rights of the Uyghur population in China; considers the use of thermal cameras of this provider in Parliament's premises therefore to be unacceptable; calls on the Secretary-General to terminate the contract with Hikvision and remove all of Hikvision's thermal cameras from Parliament's premises; stresses the need for the *administration* to be more prudent in the selection of equipment providers in the future;

⁵ <https://www.dw.com/en/exclusive-eu-taps-chinese-technology-linked-to-muslim-internment-camps-in-xinjiang/a-55362125>

⁶

<https://www.npr.org/2019/10/08/768150426/u-s-blacklists-chinese-tech-firms-over-treatment-of-uighurs?t=1611915285989>

<https://www.npr.org/2019/10/08/768150426/u-s-blacklists-chinese-tech-firms-over-treatment-of-uighurs?t=1611915285989>

Or. en

Amendment 31**Lara Wolters**

on behalf of the S&D Group

Report**Petri Sarvamaa**

2019 Discharge: EU general budget - European Parliament

2020/2141(DEC)

A9-0044/2021**Motion for a resolution****Paragraph 74***Motion for a resolution*

74. Takes note of the immediate actions, approved by the Bureau at its meeting of 22 July 2020, which included an awareness campaign, protection of valuable IT equipment, prior notification of maintenance works, and provisions of separate master keys for each floor and strict limitation of their distribution; expects Parliament to consider long-term measures to prevent thefts including, among those proposed, the introduction of different levels of access rights within Parliament's premises, increased CCTV coverage, and further actions relating to keys' management policy, including the possibility of installing electronic door locks taking due account of the necessary proportionality between the investments needed and the actual value of stolen items, as well as the preservation of privacy;

Amendment

74. Takes note of the immediate actions, approved by the Bureau at its meeting of 22 July 2020, which included an awareness campaign, protection of valuable IT equipment, prior notification of maintenance works, and provisions of separate master keys for each floor and strict limitation of their distribution; ***expresses, however, its disagreement with the specific messages and general tone of the awareness campaign against the burglaries in Parliament buildings because it seems to blame Members and staff rather than disseminating practical security recommendations***; expects Parliament to consider long-term measures to prevent thefts including, among those proposed, the introduction of different levels of access rights within Parliament's premises, increased CCTV coverage, and further actions relating to keys' management policy, including the possibility of installing electronic door locks taking due account of the necessary proportionality between the investments needed and the actual value of stolen items, as well as the preservation of privacy;

Or. en