



**CONT\_PV(2014)0122\_2**

**MINUTES**

Meeting of 22 January 2014, from 16.00 to 18.30  
BRUSSELS

**1. Adoption of agenda** CONT\_OJ PE526247v01-00

The agenda was adopted.

The following spoke: Michael Theurer

**2. Chair's announcements**

The Chairman announced that electronic vote was not possible in that room.

**\*\*\* Electronic vote \*\*\***

**3. Enquiry report on the role and operations of the Troika (ECB, Commission and IMF) with regard to the euro area programme countries**

CONT/7/14609

2013/2277(INI)

Rapporteur Michael Theurer (ADLE)  
for the  
opinion:

Responsible: ECON – Othmar Karas (PPE)  
Liem Hoang Ngoc (S&D)

PR – PE526.111v01-00

- Adoption of draft opinion.

The following spoke: Michael Theurer, Ingeborg Grässle.

Amendments adopted: 5, 8, 10, 11, 12, 15, 19, 20, 37, 39, 44, 45, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54 and 55.

Amendments rejected: 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 16, 17, 18, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31,

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PE527.984v01-00

32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 40, 41, 42, 43 and 46.

The following amendments fell: 13, 14 and 38.

The draft report was adopted by 21 votes in favour, 2 votes against and 1 abstention.

**\*\*\* End of electronic vote \*\*\***

**4. European Public Prosecutor's Office**  
CONT/7/14789  
2013/0255(APP) COM(2013)0534

Responsible: LIBE – Salvatore Iacolino (PPE)

PR – PE519.809v01-00

- Consideration of draft opinion

The following spoke: Ingeborg Gräßle, Giovanni Kessler (Director-General of OLAF), Peter Csonka (EC - DG JUST) and Michael Theurer

**5. CONT delegation to Bulgaria in the context of "Decommissioning of nuclear power plants" and "EU Funds (28 to 30 October 2013)"**  
CONT/7/11814

Rapporteur: Ingeborg Gräßle (PPE)

- Item postponed

**5. Special report No 14/2013 - European Union Direct Financial Support to the Palestinian Authority**  
CONT/7/14682

Rapporteur: Thijs Berman (S&D)

DT – PE524.670v02-00

- Exchange of views and consideration of a working document, in the presence of the Member of the European Court of Auditors responsible, H.G. Wessberg

The following spoke: Michael Theurer, H.G. Wessberg (Member of ECA), Thijs Berman, Ingeborg Gräßle, Michael Koehler (EC DEVCO)

**6. Any other business**

None.

**7. Next meeting(s)**

- 23 January 2014, 9.00 – 12.30 (Brussels)

The meeting closed at 17.40.

**ПРИСЪСТВЕН ЛИСТ/LISTA DE ASISTENCIA/PREZENČNÍ LISTINA/DELTAGERLISTE/  
ANWESENHEITSLISTE/KOHALOLIJATE NIMEKIRI/ΚΑΤΑΣΤΑΣΗ ΠΑΡΟΝΤΩΝ/RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/POPIS  
NAZOČNIH/LISTE DE PRÉSENCE/ELENCO DI PRESENZA/APMEKLĚJUMU REGISTRYS/DALYVIŲ ŠARŠAS/JELENLĚTI  
IV/REGISTRU TA' ATTENDENZA/PRESENTIELIJST/LISTA OBECNOŠCI/LISTA DE PRESENÇAS/LISTA DE PREZENȚĂ/  
PREZENČNÁ LISTINA/SEZNAM NAVZOČIH/LÁSNÁOLOLISTA/DELTAGARLISTA**

<p>Бюро/Mesa/Předsednictvo/Formandskabet/Vorstand/Juhatus/Προεδρείο/Bureau/Predsjedništvo/Ufficio di presidenza/Prezidijs/ Biuras/Elnökség/ Prezydium/Birou/Predsednictvo/Predsedstvo/Puheenjohtajisto/Presidiet (*)</p>
<p>Michael Theurer</p>
<p>Членове/Diputados/Poslanci/Medlemmer/Mitglieder/Parlamendiliikmed/Μέλη/Members/Zastupnici/Députés/Deputati/Deputāti/Nariai/ Képviselek/ Membri/Leden/Poslowie/Deputados/Deputați/Jäsenet/Ledamöter</p>
<p>Marta Andreasen, Jean-Pierre Audy, Inés Ayala Sender, Tamás Deutsch, Martin Ehrenhauser, Jens Geier, Ingeborg Gräble, Stephen Hughes, Cătălin Sorin Ivan, Monica Luisa Macovei, Katarína Neveďalová, Monika Panayotova, Petri Sarvamaa, Theodoros Skylakakis, Søren Bo Søndergaard</p>
<p>Заместници/Suplentes/Náhradníci/Stedfortrædere/Stellvertreter/Asendusliikmed/Αναπληρωτές/Substitutes/Zamjenici/Suppléants/ Supplenti/Aizstājēji/Pavaduojantysnariai/Póttagok/Sostituti/Plaatsvervangers/Zastępcy/Membros suplentes/Supleanti/Náhradníci/ Namestniki/Varajäsenet/Suppleanter</p>
<p>Thijs Berman, Barbara Weiler, Cornelis de Jong</p>

<p>187 (2)</p>
<p>Emer Costello, Albert Deß, Peter Jahr, Elisabeth Jeggle, Teresa Jiménez-Becerril Barrio, Andrea Češková</p>
<p>193 (3)</p>
<p>46 (6) (Точка от дневния ред/Punto del orden del día/Bod pořadu jednání (OJ)/Punkt på dagsordenen/Tagesordnungspunkt/Päevakorra punkt/Ημερήσια Διάταξη Σημείο/Agenda item/Točka dnevnog reda/Point OJ/Punto all'ordine del giorno/Darba kārtības punkts/Darbotvarkés punktas/ Napirendi pont/Punt Agenda/Agendapunt/Punkt porządku dziennego/Ponto OD/Punct de pe ordinea de zi/Bod programu schůdze/ Točka UL/Esityslistan kohta/Föredragningslista punkt)</p>
<p></p>

<p>Наблюдатели/Observadores/Pozorovatelé/Observatører/Beobachter/Vaatlejad/Παρατηρητές/Observers/Promatrači/Observateurs/ Osservatori/Novērotāji/Stebētāji/Megfigyelők/Osservatori/Waarnemers/Observatorzy/Observadores/Observatori/Pozorovatelia/ Orazovalci/Tarkkailijat/Observatörer</p>
<p></p>

<p>По покана на председателя/Por invitación del presidente/Na pozvání předsedy/Efter indbydelse fra formanden/Auf Einladung des Vorsitzenden/Εσιμεhe kutsel/Με πρόσκληση του Προέδρου/At the invitation of the Chair(wo)man/Na poziv predsjednika/Sur l'invitation du président/Su invito del presidente/Pēc priekšsēdētāja uzaicinājuma/Pirmininkui pakvietus/Az elnök meghívására/Fuq</p>
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stedina tač'-Chairman'/ Op uitnodiging van de voorzitter/Na zaproszenie Przewodniczącego/A convite do Presidente/La invitația președintelui/Na pozwanie predsedu/Na povabilo predsednika/Puheenjohtajan kutsusta/På ordförandens inbjudan

Съвет/Consejo/Rada/Rådet/Rat/Nōukogu/Συμβούλιο/Council/Vijeće/Conseil/Consiglio/Padome/Taryba/Tanács/Kunsill/Raad/Conselho/Consiliu/Svet/Neuvosto/Rådet (*)	
Комисия/Comisión/Komise/Kommissionen/Kommission/Euroopa Komisjon/Επιτροπή/Commission/Commissione/Komisija/Bizottság/Kummissjoni/Commissie/Komisja/Comissão/Comisie/Komisia/Komissio/Kommissionen (*)	
Manfred Kraff (Deputy Director-General, DG BUDG),  Peter Csonka (EC - DG JUST)	
Други институции/Otras instituciones/Ostatní orgány a instituce/Andre institutioner/Andere Organe/Muud institutsioonid/Άλλα θεσμικά όργανα/Other institutions/Autres institutions/Altre istituzioni/Citas iestādes/Kitos institucijos/Más intézmények/Istutuzjonijiet oħra/Andere instellingen/Inne instytucje/Outras Instituições/Alte instituții/Iné inštitúcie/Druge institucije/Muut toimielimet/Andra institutioner/organ	
ECA	H.G. Wessberg (Member of the Court of Auditors)
OLAF	Giovanni Kessler, Director General

Други учасници/Otros participantes/Ostatní účastníci/Endvidere deltog/Andere Teilnehmer/Muud osalejad/Επίσης Παρόντες/Other participants/Drugi sudionici/Autres participants/Altri partecipanti/Citi klātesošie/Kiti dalyviai/Más résztvevők/Partecipanti oħra/Andere aanwezigen/ Inni uczestnicy/Outros participantes/Alți participanți/Iní účastníci/Drugi udeleženci/Muut osallistujat/Övriga deltagare	
Секретариат на политическите групи/Secretaría de los Grupos políticos/Sekretariát politických skupin/Gruppernes sekretariat/Sekretariat der Fraktionen/Fraktsioonide sekretariaat/Γραμματεία των Πολιτικών Ομάδων/Secretariats of political groups/Tajništva klubova zastupnika/Secrétariat des groupes politiques/Segreteria gruppi politici/Politisko grupu sekretariāts/Frakciju sekretariāi/Képviseletcsoportok titkársága/Sekretarjat gruppi politici/Fractiesecretariaten/Sekretariat Grup Politycznych/Secr. dos grupos políticos/Secretariate grupuri politice/Sekretariát politických skupin/Sekretariat političnih skupin/Poliittisten ryhmién sihteeriöt/Gruppernas sekretariat	
PPE	Balázs Széchy, Jonas Kraft, Laure De Montagnac
S&D	Maggie Coulthard, Václav Mls, Maddalena Cremascoli
ALDE	Dominykas Mordas
ECR	Kamila Wrzesinska, Peter O'Broin
Verts/ALE	Andreas Wehr, Maj Aslett-Rydbjerg
GUE/NGL	Maria Barbara Gatto, Mattia Roggero
EFD	
NI	

<p>Кабинет на председателя/Gabinete del Presidente/Kancelář předsedy/Formandens Kabinet/Kabinett des Präsidenten/Presidendi kantslei/Γραφείο Προέδρου/President's Office/Ured predsednika/Cabinet du Président/Gabinetto del Presidente/Priekšsēdētāja kabinets/Pirmininko kabinetas/Elnöki hivatal/Kabinett tal-President/Kabinet van de Voorzitter/Gabinet Przewodniczącego/Gabinete do Presidente/ Cabinet Preşedinte/Kancelária predsedu/Urad predsednika/Puhemiehen kabinetti/Talmannens kansli</p>	
<p>Кабинет на генералния секретар/Gabinete del Secretario General/Kancelář generálního tajemníka/Generalsekretærens Kabinet/Kabinett des Generalsekretærs/Peasekretäri büroo/Γραφείο Γενικού Γραμματέα/Secretary-General's Office/Ured glavnog tajnika/Cabinet du Secrétaire général/Gabinetto del Segretario generale/Generalsekretära kabinets/Generalinio sekretoriaus kabinetas/Főtitkári hivatal/Kabinett tas-Segretarju Ġenerali/Kabinet van de secretaris-generaal/Gabinet Sekretarza Generalnego/Gabinete do Secretário-Geral/Cabinet Secretar General/Kancelária generálneho tajomníka/Urad generalnega sekretarja/Pääsihteerin kabinetti/Generalsekreterarens kansli</p>	
<p>Генерална дирекция/Dirección General/Generální ředitelství/Generaldirektorat/Generaldirektion/Peadirektoraat/Γενική Διεύθυνση/Directorate-General/Glavna uprava/Direction générale/Direzione generale/Ġenerāldirektorāts/Generalinis direktoratas/Főigazgatóság/Direktorat Ġenerali/Direktoraten-generaal/Dyrekcja Generalna/Direcção-Geral/Direcții Generale/Generálne riaditeľstvo/Generalni direktorat/ Pääosasto/Generaldirektorat</p>	
<p>DG PRES DG IPOL DG EXPO DG COMM DG PERS DG INLO DG TRAD DG INTE DG FINS DG ITEC</p>	<p>Anne Vitrey, Niels Fischer, Alexandre Mathis  Eszter Balazs</p>
<p>Правна служба/Servicio Jurídico/Právní služba/Juridisk Tjeneste/Juristischer Dienst/Öigusteenistus/Νομική Υπηρεσία/Legal Service/Service juridique/Servizio giuridico/Juridiskais dienests/Teisės tarnyba/Jogi szolgálat/Servizz legali/Juridische Dienst/Wydział prawny/Servico Jurídico/Serviciu Juridic/Právny servis/Pravna služba/Oikeudellinen yksikkö/Rättstjänsten</p>	
<p>Angelina Gros-Tchorbadjiyska</p>	
<p>Секретариат на комисията/Secretaría de la comisión/Sekretariat výboru/Udvalgssekretariatet/Ausschussekretariat/Komisjoni sekretariaat/Γραμματεία επιτροπής/Committee secretariat/Tajništvo odbora/Secrétariat de la commission/Segreteria della commissione/Komitejas sekretariāts/Komiteto sekretoriatas/A bizottság titkársága/Sekretarjat tal-kumitat/Commissiesecretariaat/Sekretariat komisji/ Secretariado da comissão/Sekretariat comisie/Sekretariat odbora/Valiokunnan sihteeriistö/Utskottssekretariatet</p>	
<p>Carmen Castillo del Carpio, Mauro De Oliveira, Christian Ehlers, Philippe Godts, Tereza Pinto de Rezende, Olivier Sautière, Hrvoje Svetić</p>	
<p>Сътрудник/Asistente/Asistent/Assistent/Assistentz/Βοηθός/Assistent/Assistente/Palígs/Padėjėjas/Assisztens/Asyent/Pomočnik/Avustaja/Assistenten</p>	
<p>Cinti Torrens Bermo</p>	

- \* (P) = Председател/Presidente/Předseda/Formand/Vorsitzender/Esimees/Πρόεδρος/Chair(wo)man/Predsjednik/Président/Priekšsēdētājs/Pirmininkas/Elnök/Chairman/Voorzitter/Przewodniczący/Preşedinte/Predseda/Predsednik/Puheenjohtaja/Ordförande
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### **MEETING** **WEDNESDAY 22 JANUARY 2014**

16.00 – 18.30 public meeting

Paul-Henri Spaak 7C050

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#### **1. AGENDA**

The [draft agenda](#) (in EN) was emailed to Members on 10 January 2014 and is in the [file for this meeting](#).

#### **2. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman draws attention to the following points:

#### **LANGUAGES AVAILABLE**

CS, DE, EN, ES, FR, HU, IT, LT, NL, PL, RO

#### **WEBSTREAMING**

The CONT meeting is webstreamed on the [Europarl web-site](#). Please be aware that each time a speaker activates the microphone to make an intervention, the camera will be automatically directed to the speaker.



**WEDNESDAY 22 JANUARY 2014**

16.00 – 18.30 public meeting

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CONT Rapporteur:

[Ingeborg Gräßle](#) (PPE)

LIBE Rapporteur:

[Salvatore Iacolino](#) (PPE)

Administrator:

Tereza Pinto de Rezende

### Exchange of views

#### CONT Timetable:

Adoption in CONT and LIBE:

to be agreed between both committees.

#### Plenary vote:

April I or II 2014

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Head of delegation:

[Ingeborg Gräßle](#) (PPE)

Administrator:

Tereza Pinto de Rezende

### Exchange of views on delegation conclusions

Delegation date:

28 to 30 October 2013

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### 3. EUROPEAN PUBLIC PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE



The Proposal for a Council Regulation on the establishment of the European Public Prosecutor Office [COM (2013) 534 final] is based on Article 86 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) which establishes a special legislative procedure to combat crimes affecting the financial interests of the Union and it requires unanimous action by the Council after obtaining consent from the Parliament. The main objectives of the proposal that creates the European Public Prosecutor office (EPPO) are "to contribute to the strengthening of the protection of the Union's financial

interests, to establish a coherent European system for the investigation and prosecution of offences affecting the Union's financial interests, to ensure a more efficient and effective investigation and prosecution of offences affecting the EU's financial interests, to increase the number of prosecutions, leading to more convictions and recovery of fraudulently obtained Union funds, to ensure closer cooperation between European and national competent authorities and to enhance deterrence of committing offences affecting the Union's financial interests".

The Rule 81(3) of the Parliament's Rules of Procedure states that "the committee responsible may decide, in the interests of achieving a positive outcome of the procedure, to present an interim report on the proposal to Parliament including a motion for a resolution containing recommendations for modification or implementation of the proposed act". The LIBE Committee has taken the responsibility of drafting an interim report and CONT is associated to that procedure under the Rule 50 of the EP Rules of Procedure with a proposal by the Rapporteur Ingeborg Gräßle containing draft recommendations in its field of competence.

### 4. CONT DELEGATION TO BULGARIA IN THE CONTEXT OF "DECOMMISSIONING OF NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS" AND "EU FUNDS (28 TO 30 OCTOBER 2013)



A CONT delegation travelled to Bulgaria from 28 to 30 October to visit the nuclear power plant of Kozloduy as part of decommissioning of nuclear power plants and also paid a visit to the audit office and the Ministries of Energy and Finances. A brief meeting with a stakeholder in the area of energy concluded the programme in Sofia.

In the context of the accession negotiations and to increase nuclear safety, Bulgaria, Lithuania and Slovakia committed themselves to closing and decommissioning their non-upgradeable reactors. For that reason, and for the recognised social, economic and financial burden of that commitment, the European Union provided a financial contribution to these countries that has been assessed by the Court of Auditors.



The CONT delegation decided to visit the nuclear power plants (NPP) in those three countries and the visit to Bulgaria was the last of the three missions that CONT committee devoted to this matter.

The delegation examined the progress of decommissioning process in Kozloduy and reached the following conclusions:

- The dismantling of Kozloduy NPP (KNPP) was a BG decision, is credible, effectively taking place and its progress is overall satisfactory;
- Each decommissioning project raised different issues and therefore it is not possible to draw all conclusions;
- The decommissioning team is very professional and engaged;
- The division of competences between KNPP and SERAW in the decommissioning process is still not fully clear;
- Information on the length of the remaining lifetime of the reactors, on the complete removal of the fuel rod from reactors 1-4, on the final storage of radioactive material and on the effective use of the spent fuel containers was required following the delegation visit;
- The financial shortfall remains unknown because of the different figures provided but there was a general agreement that a plan for plugging the gap is essential;
- The delegation would like to see more engagement from the National Parliament and from the Bulgarian National Audit office in monitoring the funds use in the decommissioning process;
- The work of the audit activity directorate within the Ministry of Finances in its effort to ensuring an efficient implementation of the projects co-financed by the European Funds is recommended;
- EUR 260 million is available in the next financial period only for decommission purposes and therefore mitigation measures will be dependent on national funding.

Rapporteur:  
[Thijs Berman](#) (S&D)

Administrator:  
Olivier Sautière

**Exchange of views and consideration of a working document, in the presence of the Member of the European Court of Auditors responsible, H.G. Wessberg**

**Plenary vote:**  
April II 2014

## 5. SPECIAL REPORT NO 14/2013 - EUROPEAN UNION DIRECT FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO THE PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY



Since 2008, the largest programme in the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt) has been PEGASE Direct Financial Support (DFS) which provided approximately 1 billion euro in funding from 2008 to 2012. The main rationale of PEGASE DFS is to help the Palestinian Authority (PA) to continue to function until the achievement of the two-state solution and also channels assistance to meet PA's obligations to civil servants, pensioners and vulnerable families and to maintain essential public services and improve public finances.

The overall objective of the Court's audit was to address the following question: *'Have the EEAS and the Commission managed the PEGASE Direct Financial Support (DFS) to the Palestinian Authority well?'* To answer this question, the audit focused on (i) the design and implementation arrangements for PEGASE DFS from 2008 to 2012, (ii) the results of PEGASE DFS and their sustainability and (iii) related technical assistance contracts, notably in the area of public finance management, signed during this period.

The Court identified a number of shortcomings in the Commission's management of the PEGASE mechanism *inter alia* the lack of standard internal quality review procedures and performance indicators in the financing agreements, the absence of a risk assessment addressing issues such as corruption in Gaza with regard to the payroll system, and the persistent weaknesses in the Palestinian Authority's public finance



management.

The Rapporteur welcomes the special report examining the EU direct financial support to the Palestinian Authority as an important contribution to the overall political and financial debate about the European Union's engagement with Israel and Palestine with a view to supporting progress towards the two-state solution.

He points out the necessity to undertake a major review of PEGASE and particularly emphasises the need to reinforce the programming phase of the future of PEGASE DFS by introducing performance indicators, particularly in the areas of health, education, and public finance management and linking more closely PEGASE to the new EU-PA action plan priorities and by using competitive tendering for contracts relating to the management and control of PEGASE DFS.

He also suggests developing a clear strategy on how to reduce the PA's dependency on EU financial support, to introduce benchmarks such as creating functional institutions as an incentive for the PA to receive EU funding and requests the Commission and the EEAS to discuss with the PA regarding the increasing number of PA civil servants in Gaza who are receiving salaries from the PEGASE DFS without working.

The Rapporteur's working document (EN) is available on the [CONT website](#). The Rapporteur's conclusions will form part of the Commission's discharge report for the financial year 2012. Amendments may be tabled in this context and the deadline will be the same as the Commission's discharge: 26 February 2014.



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### **Contacts**

Email of the CONT secretariat:

[cont-secretariat@europarl.europa.eu](mailto:cont-secretariat@europarl.europa.eu)

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### **NEXT MEETINGS (BRUSSELS)**

**23 January 2014, 9.00 – 12.30**

**17 February 2014, 15.00 – 18.30**

**18 February 2014, 9.00 – 12.30**

**20 February 2014, 9.00 – 12.30**