



Committee on Budgetary Control

09/11/2015

AMENDMENTS 1 - 14

Tamás Deutsch

Transparency, accountability and integrity in the EU institutions

Draft opinion PE560.864 - 2015/2041(INI)

Amendments created with

at4am

Go to <http://www.at4am.ep.parl.union.eu>

\000000EN.doc

EN

United in diversity

EN

Amendment 1
Dennis de Jong

Draft opinion
Recital D a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

D a. Whereas transparency, accountability and integrity should be the leading principles for the culture within the European institutions;

Or. en

Amendment 2
Dennis de Jong, Ana Gomes, Marian Harkin, Elly Schlein, Benedek Jávor, Ignazio Corrao

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

Amendment

1. Calls for an overall improvement in the prevention of, and the fight against, corruption in the public sector through better public access to documents and more stringent rules on conflicts of interest ***and*** transparency registers, ***with a view to developing a coherent global approach to these issues;***

1. Calls for an overall improvement in the prevention of, and the fight against, corruption in the public sector through ***a holistic approach, commencing with*** better public access to documents and more stringent rules on conflicts of interest, ***support for investigative journalism and for anti-corruption watchdogs, the introduction or strengthening of*** transparency registers, ***the provision of sufficient resources for law enforcement measures and through improved co-operation among Member States as well as with relevant third countries;***

Or. en

Amendment 3
Dennis de Jong, Marian Harkin, Ana Gomes, Elly Schlein, Benedek Jávor, Ignazio Corrao

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

4 a. Calls upon those European institutions who have introduced codes of conduct, including the Parliament, to step up their implementation measures, such as the checks of declarations of financial interests;

Or. en

Amendment 4

Dennis de Jong, Ana Gomes, Marian Harkin, Elly Schlein, Benedek Jávor, Ignazio Corrao

Draft opinion Paragraph 5

Draft opinion

5. Requests that the aforementioned structure assess the compatibility of post-EU employment or the situation whereby civil servants move from the public to the private sector (the ‘revolving door’ issue) and the possibility of a conflict of interest, and define clear cooling-off periods during which officials are required to behave with integrity and discretion or to comply with certain conditions when taking up new duties;

Amendment

5. Requests that all EU institutions implement article 16 of the EU Staff Regulations by annually publishing information about senior officials who left the EU administration, as well as a list of conflicts of interests; requests that the aforementioned structure assess the compatibility of post-EU employment or the situation whereby civil servants move from the public to the private sector (the ‘revolving door’ issue) and the possibility of a conflict of interest, and define clear cooling-off periods during which officials are required to behave with integrity and discretion or to comply with certain conditions when taking up new duties, ***which will cover at least the time of transitional allowances;***

Or. en

Amendment 5

Dennis de Jong, Ana Gomes, Marian Harkin, Elly Schlein, Benedek Jávor, Ignazio Corrao

Draft opinion Paragraph 6

Draft opinion

6. Encourages the dissemination of the conflict-of-interest policy among officials alongside ongoing awareness-raising activities;

Amendment

6. Encourages the dissemination of the conflict-of-interest policy among officials alongside ongoing awareness-raising activities ***and the inclusion of integrity and transparency as an obligatory item to be discussed during recruitment procedures and performance chats;***

Or. en

Amendment 6

Dennis de Jong, Ana Gomes, Marian Harkin, Elly Schlein, Benedek Jávor, Ignazio Corrao

**Draft opinion
Paragraph 7**

Draft opinion

7. Welcomes the Commission's agreement to increase transparency by improving its system of expert groups, particularly as regards the procedure for selecting experts, through the development of a new conflict-of-interest policy for experts appointed in a personal capacity; takes note of the requirement for experts to be registered in the transparency register where relevant;

Amendment

7. Notes with concern the findings of the researchers in the study "Composition of the Commission's expert groups and the status of the register of expert groups"^{1 a}; urges the Commission to take the recommendations of this study into account, when drafting amendments to the current horizontal rules governing expert groups; requests the Commission to engage in a dialogue with the Parliament, before these rules are being formally adopted, especially in relation to the up-coming CONT/JURI report on this matter;

^{1 a} Directorate General for Internal Policies, 10/09/2015. PE 552.301

Or. en

Amendment 7

Dennis de Jong, Ana Gomes, Marian Harkin, Elly Schlein, Benedek Jávor, Ignazio Corrao

**Draft opinion
Paragraph 9**

Draft opinion

9. Believes that the level of transparency *could* be raised through the creation of a legislative footprint for EU lobbying, *with the objective of switching from a voluntary to* a mandatory EU register for all lobbying activities for any of the EU institutions;

Amendment

9. Believes that the level of transparency *must* be raised through the creation of a legislative footprint for EU lobbying, *and by establishing* a mandatory EU register for all lobbying activities for any of the EU institutions; *points in this regard to the need for introducing annexes to Commission proposals and reports of the EP, clearly indicating which lobbyists had a substantial effect on the text of these proposals and reports, and for creating the possibility for Members of Parliament, who wish to do so, of publishing on their official webpage of the Parliament, which lobbyists they have met;*

Or. en

Amendment 8

Dennis de Jong, Ana Gomes, Marian Harkin, Elly Schlein, Benedek Jávor, Ignazio Corrao

Draft opinion

Paragraph 10

Draft opinion

10. Considers, in this context, that a mandatory EU register should include clear provisions on the type of information to be recorded, i.e. accurate and regularly updated information on the nature of lobbying/legal activities, together with detailed records of contacts and input into EU law and policymaking; believes that a system of sanctions in the event of abuse should be envisaged under the supervision of Parliament;

Amendment

10. Considers, in this context, that a mandatory EU register should include clear provisions on the type of information to be recorded, i.e. accurate and regularly updated information on the nature of lobbying/legal activities, together with detailed records of contacts and input into EU law and policymaking; believes that a system of sanctions in the event of abuse should be envisaged under the supervision of Parliament; *calls upon the Commission to submit its proposals for a mandatory register without further delay;*

Or. en

Amendment 9

Dennis de Jong, Ana Gomes, Marian Harkin, Elly Schlein, Benedek Jávor, Ignazio Corrao

Draft opinion
Paragraph 11

Draft opinion

11. Demands that all those EU institutions that have not yet done so adopt internal rules on whistleblowing and assess the possibility of agreeing on a common approach to their obligations, focusing on the protection of whistleblowers;

Amendment

11. Demands that all those EU institutions that have not yet done so adopt internal rules on whistleblowing and assess the possibility of agreeing on a common approach to their obligations, focusing on the protection of whistleblowers; *asks special attention for the protection of whistleblowers in the context of the Directive on the Protection of Trade Secrets;*

Or. en

Amendment 10

Dennis de Jong, Ana Gomes, Marian Harkin, Elly Schlein, Benedek Jávor, Ignazio Corrao

Draft opinion
Paragraph 13 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

13 a. States that the annual reports of the European institutions could play an important role in the compliance regarding transparency, accountability and integrity; calls upon the European institutions to have a standard chapter in the annual reports on these components;

Or. en

Amendment 11

Dennis de Jong, Ana Gomes, Marian Harkin, Elly Schlein, Benedek Jávor, Ignazio Corrao

Draft opinion
Paragraph 14

Draft opinion

Amendment

14. Considers the Commission's first biennial anti-corruption report to be a

14. Considers the Commission's first biennial anti-corruption report to be a

promising attempt to better understand corruption in all its dimensions, to develop effective responses with a view to tackling it, and to pave the way for enhanced accountability of the public sphere to EU citizens; reaffirms, in this context, the importance of the EU' zero-tolerance policy on fraud, corruption and collusion;

promising attempt to better understand corruption in all its dimensions, to develop effective responses with a view to tackling it, and to pave the way for enhanced accountability of the public sphere to EU citizens; reaffirms, in this context, the importance of the EU' zero-tolerance policy on fraud, corruption and collusion; ***regrets, however, that this report did not include anti-corruption policies of the EU-institutions themselves;***

Or. en

Amendment 12

Dennis de Jong, Ana Gomes, Marian Harkin, Elly Schlein, Benedek Jávor, Ignazio Corrao

Draft opinion

Paragraph 16

Draft opinion

16. Demands that in its second anti-corruption report the Commission carry out further analysis at the level of both the EU institutions and the Member States of the environment in which policies are implemented, in order to identify inherent critical factors, vulnerable areas and risk factors conducive to corruption;

Amendment

16. Demands that ***at the latest*** in its second anti-corruption report the Commission carry out further analysis at the level of both the EU institutions and the Member States of the environment in which policies are implemented, in order to identify inherent critical factors, vulnerable areas and risk factors conducive to corruption;

Or. en

Amendment 13

Dennis de Jong, Ana Gomes, Marian Harkin, Elly Schlein, Benedek Jávor, Ignazio Corrao

Draft opinion

Paragraph 16 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

16 a. Requests the Commission in this regard to pay particular attention to the prevention of conflicts of interest, as well as corruptive practises in the case of decentralised agencies who are particularly vulnerable, considering the

fact that they are relatively unknown to the public and are also located throughout the EU;

Or. en

Amendment 14

Dennis de Jong, Ana Gomes, Marian Harkin, Elly Schlein, Benedek Jávor, Ignazio Corrao

Draft opinion

Paragraph 18 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

18 a. Calls upon the Commission to fulfil without delay its reporting obligations under the UN Convention against Corruption;

Or. en