



2026/2084(DEC)

21.10.2026

DRAFT OPINION

of the Committee on Foreign Affairs

for the Committee on Budgetary Control

on 2025 discharge: General budget of the EU - European External Action
Service
(2026/2084(DEC))

Rapporteur for opinion: Hilde Vautmans

PA_NonLegDec

OPINION

The Committee on Foreign Affairs calls on the Committee on Budgetary Control, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following into its motion for a resolution:

1. Stresses the central role of the EEAS in diplomatic engagement notably with its delegations at grass-roots level in coordinating peace efforts and humanitarian aid in an increasingly unstable international environment; acknowledges the EEAS's efforts to mitigate the impact of budgetary constraints in recent budget exercises; notes with concern that these constraints risk undermining the effectiveness and visibility of EU external action all over the world, including the work of EU Delegations; welcomes the efforts to widen the Delegation network and underlines the need for sustainable funding to fulfil its mandate and uphold the EU's global standing;
2. Welcomes the EEAS's progress in implementing the recommendations of ECA Special Report 02/2024 on the coordination role of the EEAS, including further improvements to information management and coordination between Headquarters and Delegations; encourages the EEAS to complete the implementation of the remaining recommendations, particularly regarding secure information exchange, reporting and workload management in EU Delegations;
3. Welcomes the ongoing follow-up to the recommendations of the Internal Audit Service and the EEAS Task Force on procurement; recalls the need for transparent and competitive procurement procedures, effective conflict-of-interest safeguards and robust internal controls; encourages the EEAS to implement the outstanding recommendations and keep the discharge authority informed of progress made.

ANNEX: DECLARATION OF INPUT

The rapporteur for opinion declares under her exclusive responsibility that she did not include in her opinion input from interest representatives falling within the scope of the Interinstitutional Agreement on a mandatory transparency register¹, or from representatives of public authorities of third countries, including their diplomatic missions and embassies, to be listed in this Annex pursuant to Article 8 of Annex I to the Rules of Procedure.

¹ Interinstitutional Agreement of 20 May 2021 between the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission on a mandatory transparency register (OJ L 207, 11.6.2021, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/agree_interinstit/2021/611/oj).