

**Question for written answer E-004637/2025/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Gerald Hauser (PfE)

Subject: Transparency of budget management at the European Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Authority

The Court of Auditors' mandate includes regularly auditing EU agencies and other bodies. The total budget of all agencies audited was EUR 5.3 billion in 2024. Three agencies working in the field of defence (the European Defence Agency, the European Union Institute for Security Studies and the European Union Satellite Centre), which are financed by contributions from Member States and audited by other independent external auditors, are not subject to auditing by the Court of Auditors. However, the Court of Auditors' reports for 2023 and 2024 fail to mention one particular agency: the European Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Authority (HERA)¹. According to the Austrian Federal Chancellery, HERA, an EU agency, is financed to the tune of EUR 6 billion from the EU's multiannual financial framework and the EU's recovery instrument (NextGenerationEU); an additional EUR 24 billion comes from other EU programmes. It thus has a budget of EUR 30 billion². HERA is therefore many times better funded than all other EU agencies combined.

1. Why has HERA not been audited by the Court of Auditors in the past, and why is it not being audited now?
2. Is the size of HERA's budget appropriate, and how does the Commission justify its opinion on the budget?
3. Why is HERA so much better funded than other EU agencies?

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¹ https://www.eca.europa.eu/ECAPublications/SAR-AGENCIES-2024/SAR-AGENCIES-2024_EN.pdf

² <https://www.bundeskanzleramt.gv.at/themen/europa-aktuell/2021/hera-neue-eu-behoerde-fuer-die-krisenvorsorge-und-reaktion-bei-gesundheitlichen-notlagen.html>.