II

(Acts whose publication is not obligatory)

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

DECISION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

of 18 May 1983

granting a discharge to the Commission in respect of the implementation of the budget of the European Communities for the 1981 financial year concerning Sections I — Parliament; II — Council; III — Commission; IV — Court of Justice; V — Court of Auditors

(83/316/EEC, Euratom, ECSC)

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT,

— Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Coal and Steel Community, and in particular Article 78g thereof,

— Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular Article 206b thereof,

— Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Atomic Energy Community, and in particular Article 108b thereof,

— Having regard to the revenue and expenditure account and balance sheet in respect of the budget for the 1981 financial year,

— Having regard to the report of the Court of Auditors on the accounts for the 1981 financial year and the replies of the institutions to the report (Doc. 1-1098/82) [1],

— Having regard to the examination of all revenue and expenditure of the Community undertaken by the Court of Auditors pursuant to Article 206a (1) of the EEC Treaty,

— Having regard to the Council recommendation of 15 March 1983 on the granting of a discharge to the Commission in respect of the implementation of the budget for the 1981 financial year,

— Having regard to the report of the Committee on Budgetary Control, the annexed working documents on the various Community policy sectors and the opinions of the Committee on Agriculture, the Committee on Energy and Research, the Committee on Social Affairs and Employment and the Committee on Development and Cooperation (Doc. 1-275/83),

---

[1] OJ No C 344, 31.12.1982.

	(ECU)	(ECU)
1. Notes that:		
A. Estimates of revenue for the 1981 financial year totalled:		18434030071
Broken down as follows:		
Own resources:	17329851202	
Surplus available from the preceding financial year:	246132415	
Balance of VAT own resources and financial contributions for preceding financial years:	546116190	
Other:	311930264	
B. Estimates of expenditure for the 1981 financial year totalled:		18434030071
2. Grants a discharge to the Commission in respect of the following amounts:		
A. Revenue		
(a) Entitlements established for the 1981 financial year:		18468644790,87
(b) Entitlements collected at 31 December 1981:		18449136922,42
Broken down as follows:		
— Amounts collected from entitlements for the financial year:	18446989687,90	
Made up as follows:		
— Own resources:	17327613160,69	
— Surplus available from the preceding financial year:	246132414,26	
— Balance of VAT own resources and financial contributions for preceding financial years:	544950534,13	
— Other:	328293578,82	
— Amounts collected from entitlements carried forward from the preceding financial year:	2147234,52	
B. Appropriations carried forward from 1980 to 1981 transferred to other items:		2696000
C. Expenditure (payments made in respect of the 1981 financial year):		16712031449,41
3. Notes		
The surplus from the 1981 financial year to be carried forward to the next financial year:		661494114,80
Revenue collected in respect of 1981:	18449136922,42	
Specifically allocated repayable revenue brought forward from 1980:	– 580448,02	

(ECU)

Repayable financial contributions for additional programmes in the research and investment sector:	–	179285,87
Appropriations carried forward from 1980 to 1981 transferred to other items:	+	2696000,00
		18451073188,53
Payments made against appropriations for 1981:		16712031449,41
Appropriations carried forward to 1982:		+1172800012,19
Appropriations carried forward from 1980 and now cancelled:	–	123006238,94
Exchange losses:	+	27753851,07
Expenditure to be financed from the revenue for the 1981 financial year:		17789579073,73

4. Draws attention to its resolution embodying the comments accompanying the decisions granting a discharge and requests the institutions to report on the measures taken following those comments in accordance with Article 85 of the Financial Regulation (1);

5. Notes the positive reaction of the Commission to specific requests submitted to it in connection with the implementation of the budget of the European Communities, in particular:

with respect to the implementation of the decisions taken by Parliament during the budgetary procedure:

(a) that the Commission would inform Parliament of the utilization of the appropriations it approved by means of amendments during the course of the financial year and, in particular, of any difficulties arising on their utilization and, where the Council fails to enact the appropriate Regulations, the appropriations are either utilized with corresponding specific measures or in budget lines with similar objectives;

with respect to the administration of own resources:

(b) that the Commission adopt as a general policy approach that funds saved during the financial year normally remain in the Community budget and are carried over to the next financial year as a surplus and that interest be levied on Member States who are late in making payments in accordance with Article 11 of Regulation (EEC, Euratom, ECSC) No 2891/77 (2);

with respect to irregularities and fraud:

(c) that the Commission had acknowledged that certain measures had been taken and promised that further measures would be taken to follow up rapidly and effectively any irregularities or frauds, and that it was anticipated that a special mobile unit would be set up to this end along the lines of those operating in other areas of Community activity;

(d) that in its recommendation of 15 March 1983 on the granting of the discharge to the Commission (Doc. 1-108/83), the Council made the following demand:

'The Council was concerned at the inconsistency in the communication of irregularities in the various Member States. It considered that it was essential for activity in this area to be stepped up and asked the Commission to submit a written report drawn up in cooperation with the Committee responsible for examining irregularities. This report should indicate the obstacles to more extensive and speedy detection of irregularities.';

with respect to food aid:

(e) that the Commission had adopted a new approach to simplify and speed up the procedure; Parliament reserved the right to investigate the practical effectiveness of its action;

with respect to the European Development Fund:

(f) that the Commission would submit a proposal for the budgetization of the Sixth European Development Fund before the opening of the negotiations;

with respect to research policy:

(g) that the Commission was similarly convinced that a genuine research policy should be implemented and

(1) OJ No L 356, 31.12.1977, p. 1.
(2) OJ No L 336, 27.12.1977, p. 1.

that the Community budget was the most appropriate instrument for so doing; Parliament called on the Commission to assess the financial implications of the closing down of the Super-Sara project;

6. Instructs its President to communicate this Decision and the attached comments to the Commission of the European Communities, to forward them to the other institutions and to arrange for their publication in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* (L series).

The Secretary General

H.-J. OPITZ

The President

P. DANKERT