

the Court of Auditors, the Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of Regions



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INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

INSTITUTIONS

ORGANS

AGENCIES

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THE COURT OF AUDITORS

THE EUROPEAN AND
SOCIAL COMMITTEE
THE COMMITTEE OF
REGIONS



EUROPEAN
COURT
OF AUDITORS

COMPOSITION

- 1 member from each EU Member State
 - **6 years term** (renewable)
 - chosen from people who:
 - have served in national audit bodies,
 - are qualified for the office
 - whose independence is beyond doubt
- divided into audit groups called 'chambers'
- supported by a staff of approximately 800 auditors, translators and administrators recruited as part of the European civil service

COMPOSITION

chambers

- I. Sustainable use of natural resources
- II. Investment for cohesion, growth and inclusion
- III. External action, security and justice
- IV. Regulation of markets and competitive economy
- V. Financing and administering the Union



Klaus-Heiner LEHNE +
 President
 Presidency
 Germany



Henri GRETHEN +
 Member
 Chamber II
 Luxembourg



Ladislav BALKO +
 Member
 Chamber II
 Slovakia



Lazaros S. LAZAROU +
 Dean, Member for the
 Annual Report
 Chamber V
 Cyprus



George PUFAN +
 Member
 Chamber II
 Romania



Neven MATES +
 Dean
 Chamber IV
 Croatia



Alex BRENNINKMEIJER +
 Member
 Chamber IV
 Netherlands



Juhan PARTS +
 Member
 Chamber III
 Estonia



Pietro RUSSO +
 Member
 Chamber V
 Italy



Baudilio TOMÉ MUGURUZA +
 Member
 Chamber III
 Spain



Iliana IVANOVA +
 Dean
 Chamber II
 Bulgaria



Danièle LAMARQUE +
 Member for Audit
 Quality Control
 Audit Quality Control
 France



Nikolaos MILIONIS +
 Dean
 Chamber I
 Greece



Phil WYNN OWEN +
 Member
 Chamber I
 United Kingdom



Eva LINDSTRÖM +
 Member
 Chamber V
 Sweden



Samo JEREB +
 Member
 Chamber I
 Slovenia



Jan GREGOR +
 Member
 Chamber V
 Czech Republic



Mihails KOZLOVS +
 Member
 Chamber IV
 Latvia



Oskar HERICS +
 Member
 Chamber II
 Austria



Bettina JAKOBSEN +
 Dean
 Chamber III
 Denmark



Janusz WOJCIECHOWSKI +
 Member
 Chamber I
 Poland



Ildikó GÁLL-PELCZ +
 Member
 Chamber IV
 Hungary



Rimantas ŠADŽIUS +
 Member for Institutional
 Relations
 Chamber IV
 Institutional Relations
 Lithuania



Leo BRINCAT +
 Member
 Chamber III
 Malta



João FIGUEIREDO +
 Member
 Chamber I
 Portugal



Tony MURPHY +
 Member
 Chamber II
 Ireland



Hannu TAKKULA +
 Member
 Chamber III
 Finland



Annemie TURTELBOOM +
 Member
 Chamber V
 Belgium

COMPETENCES

- audits EU revenue & expenditure, to check EU funds are correctly raised, spent, achieve value for money and accounted for
- checks any person or organisation handling EU funds – including spot checks in EU institutions, EU countries and countries receiving EU aid
- writes up findings and recommendations in audit reports for the European Commission and national governments
- reports suspected fraud, corruption or other illegal activity to the European Anti-Fraud Office
- produces an annual report for the European Parliament and Council, which the Parliament examines before deciding whether to approve the Commission's handling of the EU budget
- gives its expert opinion to EU policymakers on how EU finances could be better managed and made more accountable to citizens

the Court must be **independent** of the institutions and bodies it audits.

To this end, it is free to decide on:

- I. what it will audit
- II. how to do this
- III. how & when to present its findings

TYPES OF AUDITS

- I. **Financial audits** – checking that accounts accurately present the financial position, results and cash flow for the year.
- II. **Compliance audits** – checking that financial transactions follow the rules.
- III. **Performance audits** – checking that the EU funds achieve its goals with the fewest possible resources and in the most economical manner.































European Economic and Social Committee

COMPOSITION

- consultative body of the European Union
- advisory assembly of social partners:
 - I. **employers** (employers' organisations)
 - II. **employees** (trade unions)
 - III. **representatives of other groups of interests** (e.g. farmers, consumers, professional associations)

COMPOSITION

- **350 members** (number per EU Member State varies according to the population):
 - **24:** Germany , France , Italy , United Kingdom 
 - **21:** Poland , Spain 
 - **15:** Romania 
 - **12:** Belgium , Bulgaria , Greece , Netherlands , Austria , Portugal , Sweden , Czech Republic , Hungary 
 - **9:** Denmark , Finland , Ireland , Lithuania , Croatia 
Slovakia 
 - **7:** Latvia , Slovenia 
 - **6:** Estonia 
 - **5:** Malta ⁺ , Luxembourg , Cyprus 

ROLE

- I. ensure that EU policy and law are geared to **economic and social conditions**, by seeking a consensus that serves the common good
- II. promote a **participatory EU** by giving workers' and employers' organisations and other interest groups a voice and securing dialogue with them
- III. promote the **values of European integration**, and advance the cause of participatory democracy and civil society organisations

COMPETENCES

- consulted by the European Parliament, the Council and the European Commission
- issues opinions on its own initiative































**European Committee
of the Regions**

COMPOSITION

- advisory body of the European Union representing Europe's regional and local authorities
- provides sub-national authorities (i.e. regions, counties, provinces, municipalities and cities) with a direct voice within the EU's institutional framework

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COMPOSITION

- composed into chambers:
 - I. CIVEX: citizenship, governance, institutional and external affairs
 - II. COTER: territorial cohesion policy
 - III. ECON: economic policy
 - IV. ENVE: environment, climate change and energy
 - V. NAT: natural resources and agriculture
 - VI. SEDEC: social policy, employment, education, culture and research

PRINCIPLES

SUBSIDIARITY

PROXIMITY

PARTNERSHIP

ROLE

- consulted by the European Commission, the Council and the European Parliament on drawing up legislation concerning matters of local and regional level (e.g. health, education, employment, social policy, economic and social cohesion, transport, energy, climate change)
- can bring some cases to the Court of Justice
- when receives a legislative proposal, has to prepare and adopt an opinion on it
- issues opinions on its own initiative