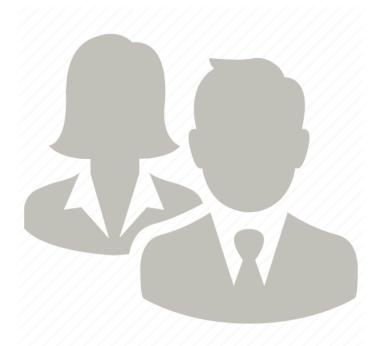
## the Court of Auditors, the Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of Regions



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#### INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

INSTITUTIONS

**ORGANS** 

**AGENCIES** 

#### INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

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THE COURT OF AUDTIORS

THE EUROPEAN AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE
THE COMMITTEE OF REGIONS



## EUROPEAN COURT OF AUDITORS

- 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

#### 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





Chamber II

Slovakia





Lazaros S. LAZAROU Dean, Member for the Annual Report

Chamber V

Cyprus





George PUFAN Member

Chamber II

Romania



Dean Chamber IV

Croatia



Neven MATES



Alex BRENNINKMEIJER

Member Chamber IV Netherlands



Estonia

Sweden

Juhan PARTS Member Chamber III







Pietro RUSSO

Member Chamber V Italy

Luxembourg











Iliana IVANOVA Dean







France









Nikolaos MILIONIS



Phil WYNN OWEN

Member Chamber I United Kingdom



Eva LINDSTRÖM Member





Samo JEREB Member

Chamber I Slovenia



Member Chamber V Czech Republic



Latvia



Member Chamber IV







Member Chamber II





Dean Chamber III

Denmark





Member Chamber I Poland



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





**TURTELBOOM** Member Chamber V Belgium



## COMPETENCES

- <u>audits EU revenue & expenditure</u>, to check EU funds are correctly raised, spent, achieve value for money and accounted for
- <u>checks any person or organisation handling EU funds</u> 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**

- 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

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

- **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 <sup>†</sup> ■, Luxembourg ==, Cyrpus €

#### 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

- 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

- **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
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  - 7: Latvia —, Slovenia Estonia
  - 6 Luxembourg —, Cyrpus 🤝
  - **5**: Malta •

- 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