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EUROPEAN  
COURT  
OF AUDITORS

# 2017

**audit of EU agencies in brief**

**Introducing the European Court of Auditors'  
2017 annual report on EU agencies**

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## **List of acronyms used for the EU agencies and other bodies**

## Executive summary

**01** The European Court of Auditors (ECA) is the external auditor of the EU's finances. In this capacity we act as the independent guardian of the financial interests of the citizens of the Union, notably by helping to improve the EU's financial management<sup>1</sup>.

**02** This document summarises our audit results for the financial year 2017 for the 41 EU agencies and other Union bodies (agencies) under our mandate. A comprehensive overview on the agencies set up by the European Union and the detailed results of our annual agency audits can be found in our new Annual Report on the EU agencies for the 2017 financial year<sup>2</sup>.

**03** Overall, our audit of the agencies for the year ended 31 December 2017 confirmed the positive results reported in previous years. Through the *statements of assurance* issued for each agency, we provided:

- unqualified (clean) audit opinions on the reliability of all agencies' accounts;
- unqualified (clean) audit opinions on the legality and regularity of the revenue underlying the accounts for all agencies;
- unqualified (clean) audit opinions on the legality and regularity of the payments underlying the agencies' accounts for all agencies, except an adverse audit opinion for EASO.

**04** Nevertheless, there is still room for improvement, as reported in *emphasis of matter* and *other matter* paragraphs and through the *observations not calling the audit opinions into question*.

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<sup>1</sup> More information on our work can be found in our activity reports, our annual reports on the implementation of the EU budget, our special reports, our landscape reviews and our opinions on new or updated EU laws or other decisions with financial management implications ([www.eca.europa.eu](http://www.eca.europa.eu)).

<sup>2</sup> This Annual report on the EU agencies replaces the previous Specific Annual Reports for the agencies.

## The audit team



*Fourth row (from left to right):* Peter Eklund (Auditor), Ausra Maziukaite (Assistant), Satu Levela (Auditor), Tomas Mackevicius (Attaché), Eddy Struyvelt (Head of Task)

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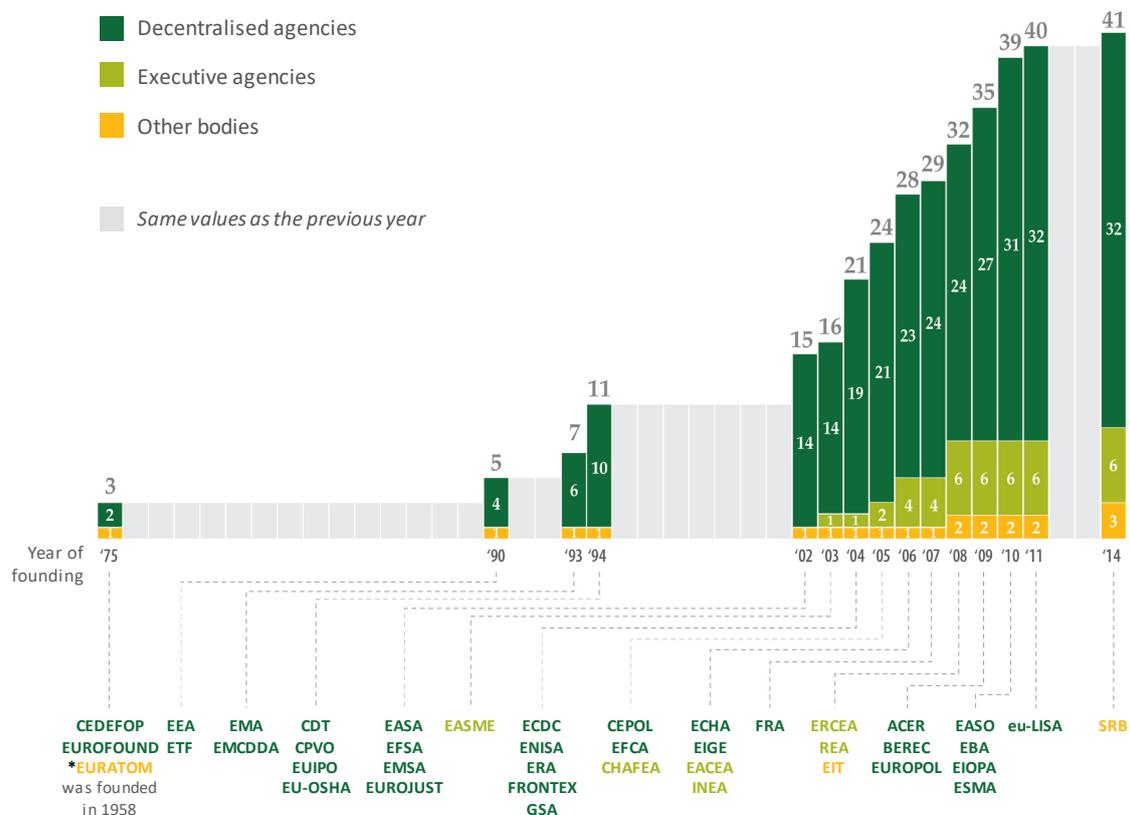
*Absent on the photo:* Bob De Blick (Auditor), Roberto Sanz Moratal (Auditor).

## What we audited

**05** The EU agencies are distinct legal entities set up by an act of secondary legislation to carry out specific technical, scientific or managerial tasks that help the EU institutions design and implement policies. They are highly visible in the Member States and have significant influence on policy and decision making and programme implementation in areas of vital importance to European citizens' daily life, e.g. health, safety, security, freedom and justice. References to specific agencies in this summary are made by using abbreviations of their full names, which are provided in the list of acronyms at the end of the document.

**06** Depending on their set-up and tasks, there are three types of EU agencies: decentralised agencies, Commission executive agencies and other bodies. The main characteristics of each are described below. The number of agencies has increased over the years and stood at 41 in 2017, as shown in **Figure 1**.

**Figure 1 – Increase in the number of agencies**

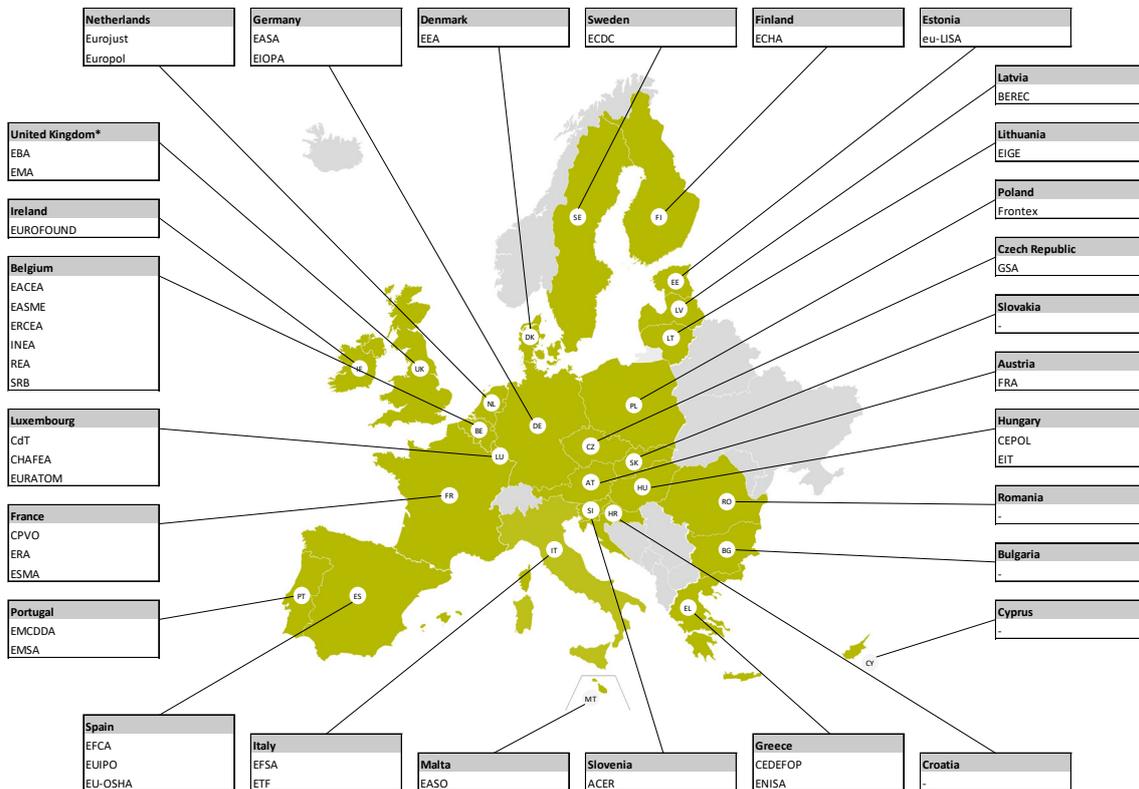


\* Some of the agencies operated before as intergovernmental organisations under a different status.

Source: ECA.

**07** Commission executive agencies are located at the seats of the Commission in Brussels and Luxembourg. Decentralised agencies and other bodies are located across the EU in 23 different Member States as shown in the list of acronyms and in **Figure 2**.

**Figure 2 – Agencies locations across Member States**



\* Following the United Kingdom's decision to leave the EU, Council decided during the General Affairs meeting (Art. 50) on 20 November 2017, to reallocate EMA and EBA to Amsterdam and Paris respectively in 2019.

Source: ECA.

## Decentralised agencies address specific policy needs

**08** The **32 decentralised agencies**<sup>3</sup> play an important role in preparing and implementing EU policies, especially for tasks of a technical, scientific, operational and/or regulatory nature. The intention is to address specific policy needs and to reinforce European cooperation by pooling technical and specialist expertise from the

<sup>3</sup> Cedefop, Eurofound, EEA, ETF, EMA, EMCDDA, CdT, CPVO, EUIPO, EU-OSHA, FRA, EASA, EFSA, EMSA, Eurojust, ECDC, ENISA, ERA, Frontex, GSA, CEPOL, EFCA, ECHA, EIGE, ACER, BEREC Office, Europol, EASO, EBA, EIOPA, ESMA, eu-LISA.

EU and national governments. They have been set up for an indefinite period by Regulation of the Council or of the European Parliament and the Council.

## Commission executive agencies implement EU programmes

**09** The **six Commission executive agencies**<sup>4</sup> are entrusted with executive and operational tasks relating to one or more EU programmes and are set up for a fixed period of time.

## Other bodies have specific mandates

**10** The three **other bodies** are the EIT, Euratom and the SRB. The EIT in Budapest is an independent, decentralised EU body, which pools scientific, business and education resources to boost the Union's innovation capacity by providing grant funding. It was set up for an indefinite period. Euratom in Luxembourg was created for an indefinite period to support the aims of the European Atomic Energy Community Treaty. The SRB in Brussels is the key authority of the Single Resolution Mechanism in the European Banking Union. Its mission is to ensure the orderly resolution of failing banks, with as little impact as possible on the real economy and public finances of EU Member States and others.

## Agencies are financed by various sources and under different MFF headings

**11** The total 2017 budget of all agencies (excluding the SRB) amounted to 3.5 billion euros (2016: 3.4 billion euros) which is equivalent in size to some 2.7 % of the 2017 EU general budget (2016: 2.4 %) as shown in **Figure 3**. In addition, the 2017 budget of the SRB amounted to 6.6 billion euros (2016: 11.8 billion euros). This consists of contributions from credit institutions to the Single Resolution Fund.

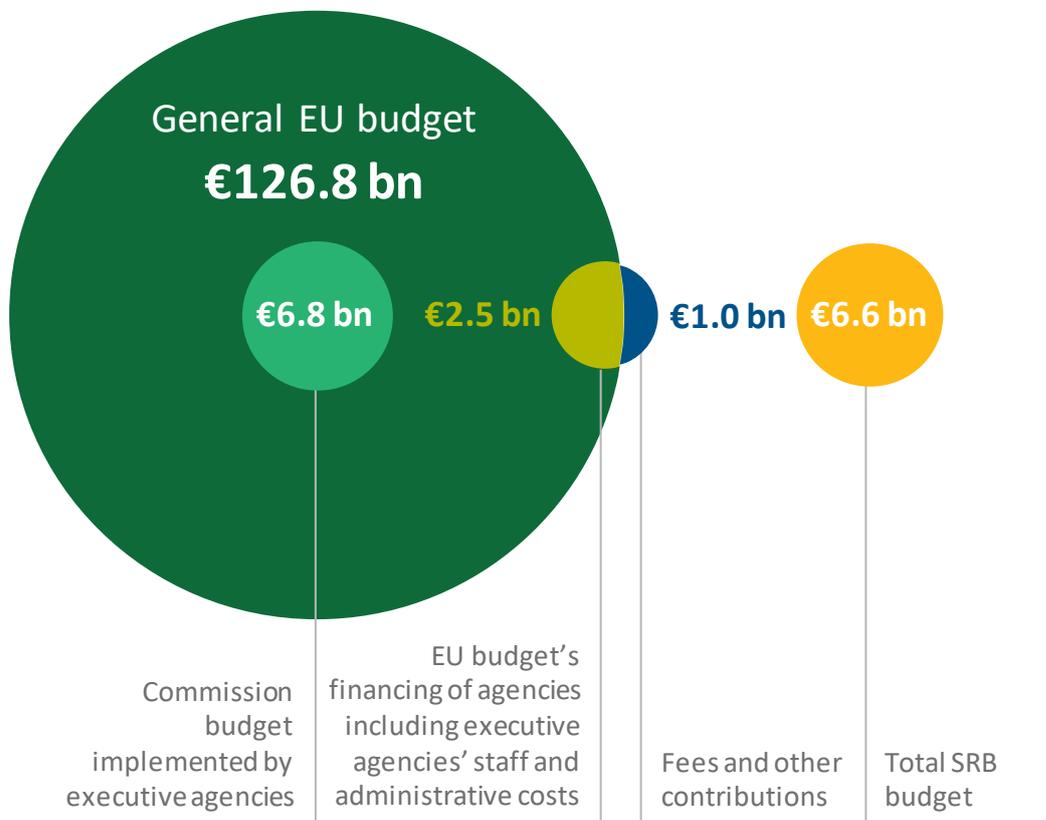
**12** The budgets of the decentralised agencies and the other bodies cover their staff, administrative and operational expenditure, whereas the executive agencies implement programmes financed by the Commission's budget, and their own budgets (some 241 million euros in total) only cover their staff and administrative expenditure. Commission operational expenditure implemented by the six executive agencies in

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<sup>4</sup> INEA, REA, EACEA, ERCEA, Chafea, EASME.

2017 amounted to some 6.8 billion euros, i.e. more than twice the total budget of all the other agencies together excluding the SRB.

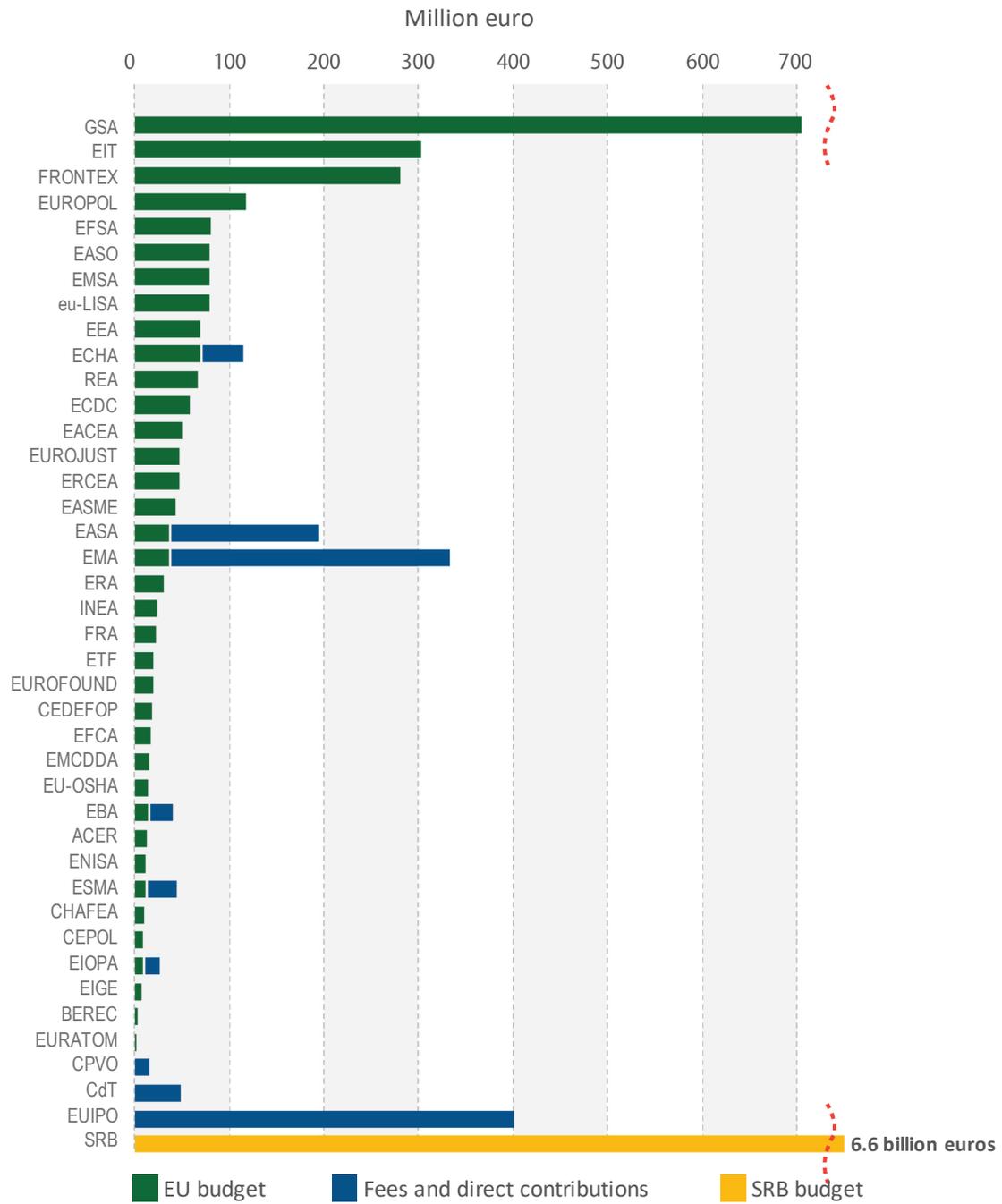
**Figure 3 – Agencies' financing sources 2017**



Source: EU general budget 2017 and agencies' budgets 2017, compiled by ECA.

**13** Most agencies, including all executive agencies, are financed almost entirely by the EU general budget. The others are fully or partially financed by fees and charges and by direct contributions from participating countries. In total, the EU general budget financed some 2.5 billion euros, with some 1 billion euros financed by fees and charges and direct contributions from participating countries. **Figure 4** shows a breakdown of the agencies by the size of the EU budget contributions received.

**Figure 4 – Agencies ranked by size of EU budget contribution**



Source: Agencies, compiled by ECA.

**14** The 2.5 billion euros in contributions from the EU general budget are financed under different MFF<sup>5</sup> headings as illustrated in **Figure 5**. The agencies with the highest increase in their budgets in 2017 were GSA and EIT, which are financed under MFF heading 1a (Competitiveness for growth and jobs) and Frontex, EMA and EASO, financed under MFF heading 3 (Security and Citizenship).

**Figure 5 – Agency financing by EU general budgets' MFF heading**

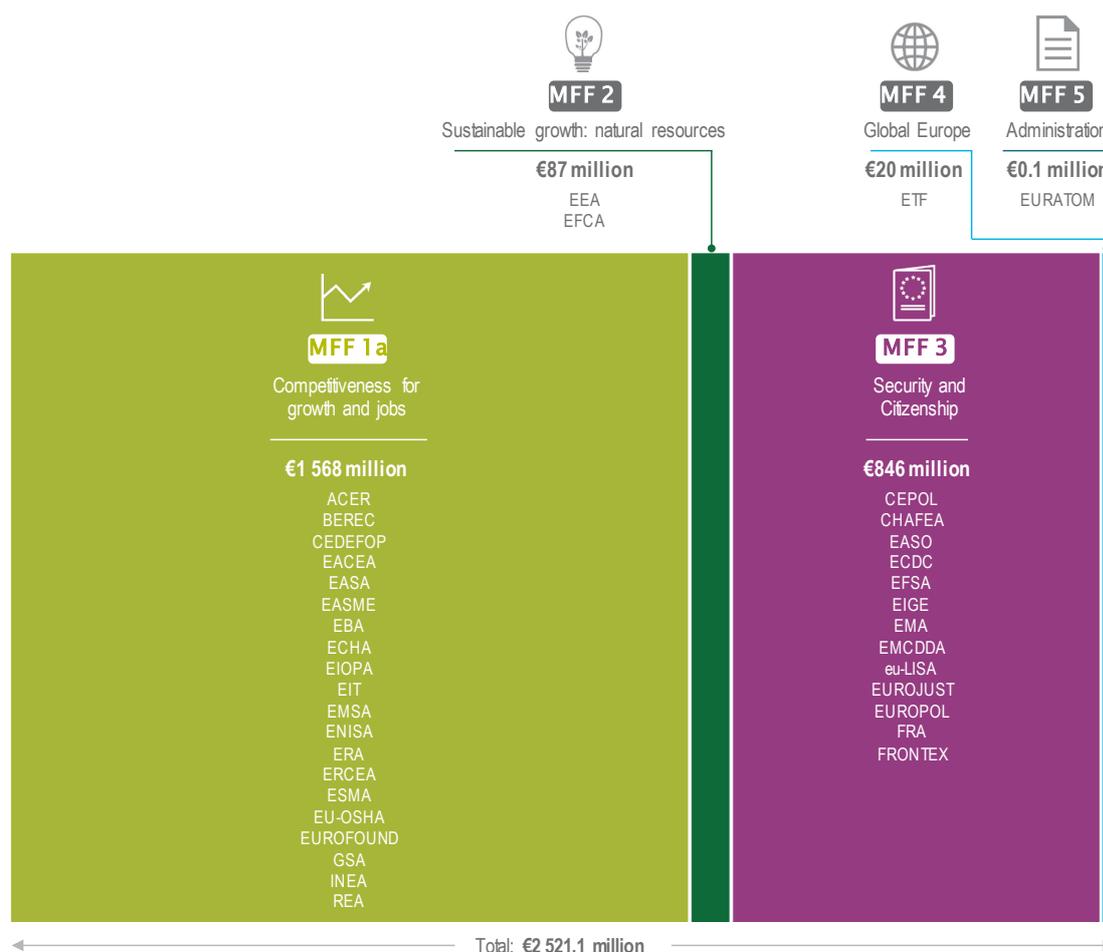


Table excludes SRB, CdT, EUIPO and CPVO.

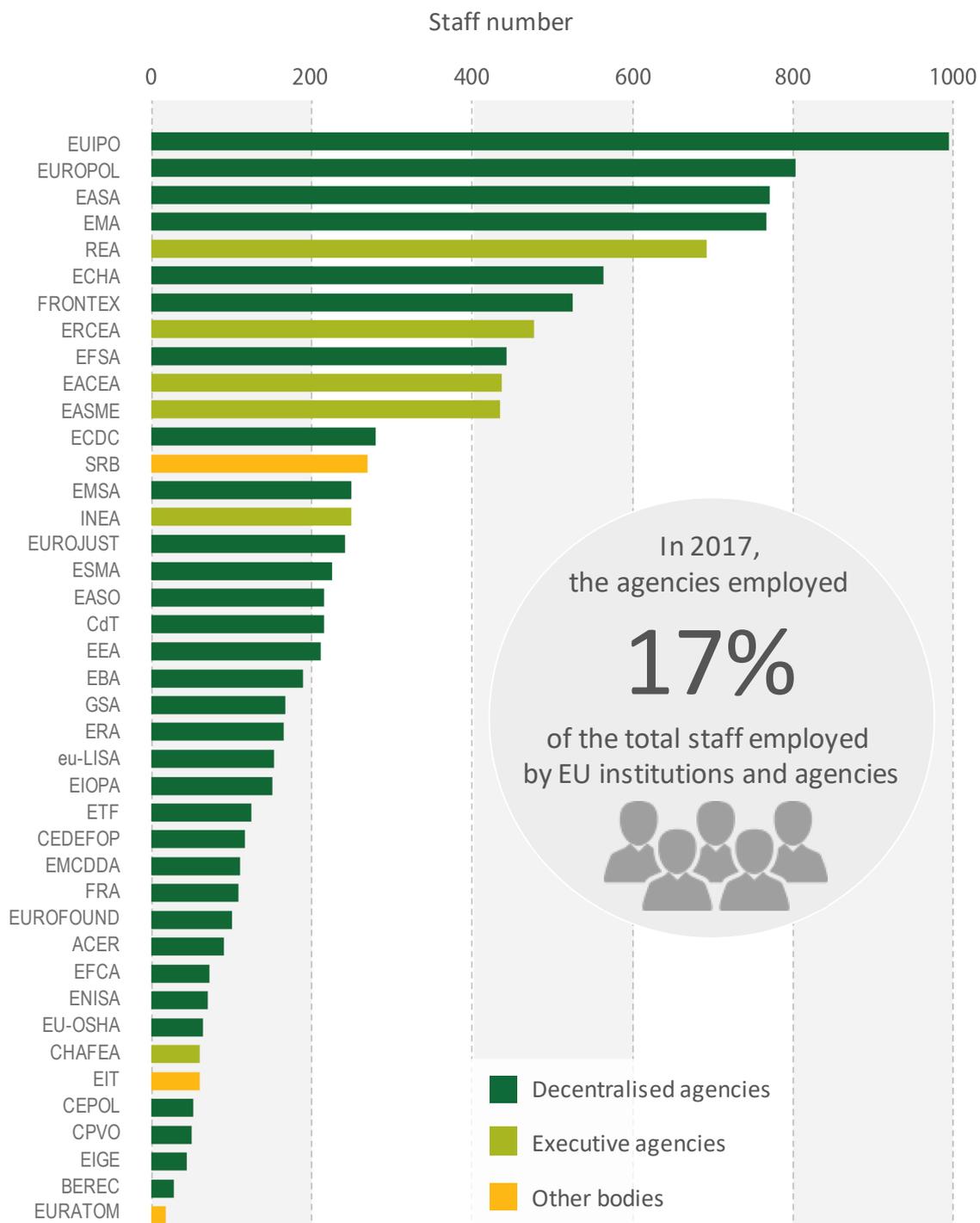
Source: EU Multiannual financial framework covering the period 2014-2020 and agencies' budgets 2017, compiled by ECA.

**15** With regard to staff, at the end of 2017 the agencies employed some 11 000 staff<sup>6</sup> (2016: 10 300), about one sixth of the total staff employed by EU institutions and agencies. The breakdown of total staff by agency is presented in **Figure 6**.

<sup>5</sup> EU Multiannual financial framework covering the period 2014-2020.

<sup>6</sup> Staff members include officials, temporary and contract staff as well as seconded national experts.

**Figure 6 – Numbers of staff per agency at the end of 2017**



Source: Agencies, compiled by ECA.

## What we found

### “Clean” opinions on the reliability of all agencies’ accounts

**16** We issued *unqualified (“clean”) audit opinions* on the accounts of all 41 agencies. In our opinion, these accounts present fairly, in all material respects, the agencies’ financial positions as at 31 December 2017 and the results of their operations and their cash flows for the year then ended, in accordance with the provisions of the applicable financial regulations and the accounting rules adopted by the Commission’s Accounting Officer<sup>7</sup>.

### Emphasis of matter paragraphs are fundamental for the understanding of the accounts

**17** For EASO, we drew attention to the fact that the critical situation in the human resources at the Office has deteriorated exponentially. The Office currently does not have the administrative capacity to fill the high number of vacancies. Overall, the human resources situation causes a significant risk to the continuation of the Office’s operations at the current scale.

**18** In the case of the SRB we emphasised that Single Resolution Fund contributions are calculated on the basis of information provided by credit institutions to the SRB through the respective national resolution authorities. However, the Single Resolution Mechanism Regulation does not provide for a comprehensive and consistent control framework to ensure the information is reliable. Furthermore, we noted that the methodology for calculating contributions laid down in the legal framework is very complex, resulting in a risk to accuracy. For confidentiality reasons the SRB cannot release the credit institutions’ data used for the calculation of Fund contributions, which reduces transparency.

**19** For ECHA the Court emphasised that the Agency is partly self-financed and receives a fee from every company applying for the registration of chemicals as required under the REACH Regulation<sup>8</sup>. The Agency calculates and invoices the fees on

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<sup>7</sup> These are based on internationally accepted accounting standards for the public sector.

<sup>8</sup> Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH) (OJ L 396, 30.12.2006, p. 1).

the basis of information provided by the companies on application. Ex-post verifications by the Agency identified the need for considerable fee corrections, with the total amount of corrections being unknown at the end of 2017.

**20** For the GSA, we noted the fact that the outcome of the public procurement procedure for one of the agency's main contracts (1.5 billion euro framework contract) has been challenged by one of the tenderers.

**21** In relation to the two London-based agencies, EMA and EBA, we drew attention to the fact that they will leave the UK in 2019 and that their accounts and related notes were prepared using the information available at the date the accounts were signed. We also referred to implications from the current lease arrangements in London and possible decreases in revenue following the UK's departure from the EU.

**22** For Chafea, we reported on significant weaknesses in the accounting environment.

### **“Clean” opinions on the legality and regularity of the revenue underlying agencies’ accounts**

**23** For all agencies, we issued *unqualified (“clean”) audit opinions* on the legality and regularity of the revenue underlying the annual accounts for the year ended 31 December 2017. In our opinion, revenue was legal and regular in all material respects.

### **“Clean” opinions on the legality and regularity of the payments underlying the agencies’ accounts, except for EASO**

**24** For 40 agencies, we issued *unqualified (“clean”) audit opinions* on the legality and regularity of the payments underlying the annual accounts for the year ended 31 December 2017. In our opinion, payments were legal and regular in all material respects.

**25** For EASO we issued an adverse opinion due to material and systematic instances of non-compliance of payments with the Office's Financial Regulation and other applicable rules and provisions, mainly related to public procurement and recruitment procedures underlying payments. The systematic nature of non-compliances demonstrates an inadequate internal control system. The combined error from non-

compliant payments amounts at least to 7.7 million euros or 10.3 % of the Office's total payments made in 2017.

### Other matter paragraphs address issues of specific importance

**26** For the EIT we addressed that the initial grant reimbursement rates to Knowledge and Innovation centres (KICs) were increased towards the end of the eligibility period, which goes against the purpose of encouraging KICs to become less dependent on EIT financing. Furthermore, some new activities were retroactively added to the annual business plans for two KICs. For one of the KICs, this represented a substantial change to the initial award decision. Substantial changes can affect the equal treatment of KICs and are not compliant with Financial Regulation.

**27** In the case of Frontex, since 2014 we have consistently reported that proof of the expenditure claimed by cooperating countries was often insufficient. This was also confirmed by this year's audit results.

**28** For EBA, EIOPA and ESMA we drew attention to the fact that their budgets are financed partly from European Union funds and partly through direct contributions from EU Member States' supervising authorities and/or supervised entities. It is possible that the authorities' revenue will decrease in future as a result of the UK's decision to leave the EU.

**29** For the GSA we reported that the Agency operates both Galileo Security Monitoring Centre (GSMC) and Galileo ground stations on UK territory, which might need to be relocated.

**30** For the CdT we referred to the fact that several agencies were making increasing use of in-house and other alternative translation solutions, which implied that the CdT's capacity was not being utilised to the greatest possible extent. Moreover, there is a duplication of effort at European level concerning translation systems development and running costs.

**31** In December 2016, BEREC Office requested translations from CdT for four calls for expression of interest for the establishment of staff reserve lists, even though all posts authorised by the budgetary authorities in its establishment plan were filled. In our view, there was no justification for the translation request in December 2016. The related payment made in March 2017 counted for 2.5 % of the BEREC Office's 2017 budget.

**Figure 7 – 2014-2017 annual audit opinions on agencies’ accounts and transactions**



Source: ECA

## Our observations suggest further improvements

**32** We made a total of 145 observations concerning 37 agencies to highlight matters of importance and to indicate room for improvement. These observations are summarised below. The majority of observations concern sound financial management.

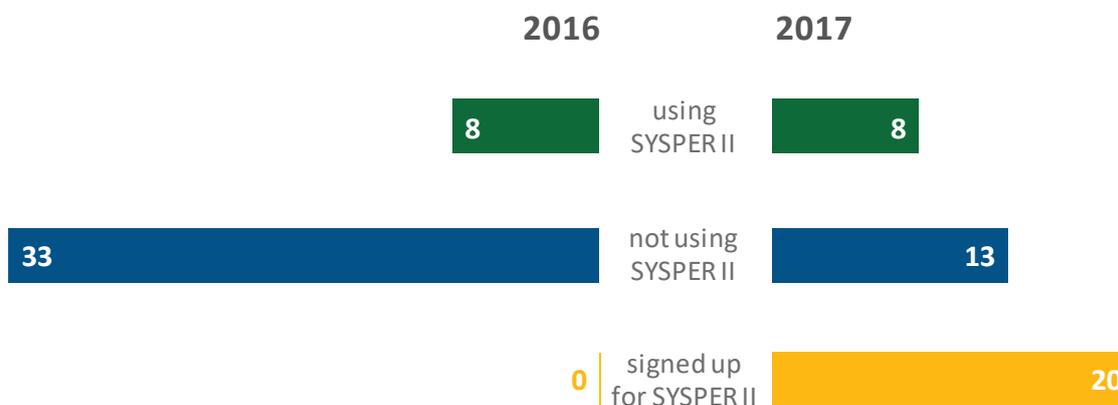
### Progress towards a more harmonised IT landscape

**33** Agencies carry out a wide range of operational activities, requiring adequate and occasionally tailor-made IT solutions. While the agencies made very good progress in the use of similar budget management and accounting systems, as we reported in our 2016 summary report on agency audit results, there was still a multitude of IT solutions used in other key areas.

**34** Good progress was made in 2017 in relation to IT tools on human resources management, when 20 agencies signed agreements with the Commission on the use

of its SYSPER II tool, which will provide for a more uniform IT landscape in the area. It is planned that the majority of agencies will use the Commission's tool as from 1 January 2019.

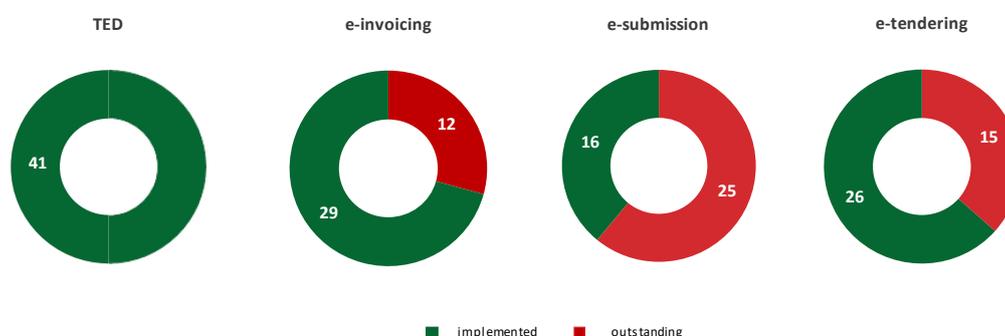
**Figure 8 – Agencies' introduction of common SYSPER II HR tool**



Source: ECA based on information from agencies.

**35 The introduction of e-procurement by the agencies is on its way.** All agencies publish their calls for tender electronically via TED (Tenders Electronic Daily), the European public procurement journal. The Commission also launched tools for electronic invoicing in 2010 (e-invoicing), for the electronic publication of documents related to contract notices in the EU Official Journal in 2011 (e-tendering) and for the electronic submission of tenders in 2015 (e-submission). By the end of 2017, most agencies had introduced e-invoicing and e-tendering for certain procedures, but not e-submission.

**Figure 9 – Agencies' introduction of e-procurement tools**



Source: ECA based on information from agencies.

## IT consultancy and project management improving at EMA and eu-LISA

**36** In the course of last year's audit we carried out an analysis of the **EMA's** management of consulting services. During 2017 the Agency implemented several measures to improve the situation. However, reducing the Agency's critical dependence on consulting firms will take time and the impact of the measures taken will only be seen over the years.

**37** Given the nature of **eu-LISA** operations, the Agency uses consultancy services mainly in connection with IT projects. For the development and implementation of IT projects the agency applies an outsourcing model where some 90 % of the related work is carried out by three contractors. Although IT projects are owned by and under the control of the Agency, a model under which the evolution and development activities for such sensitive IT systems is outsourced to such an extent creates risks of over-reliance and dependency on contractors.

## Systematic non-compliance with recruitment and procurement rules in EASO

**38** In the case of EASO we highlighted major risks inherent to the nature of the Office's activities and challenges caused by the migration crisis. Those risks were not mitigated by a solid governance structure and effective controls, which led to numerous instances of material non-compliance with the legal framework, notably in relation to recruitment and procurement procedures. The incompliances found affect the principles of competition, transparency, equal treatment and non-discrimination.

## Shortcomings persist in the management of procurements

**39** The objective underlying public procurement is to ensure competition between economic operators and to achieve the most economically advantageous purchase in a transparent, objective and consistent manner on the basis of the applicable legal framework. For 14 agencies (**BEREC Office, CEPOL, Chafea, eu-LISA, EASO, EBA, EEA, EFSA, EIGE, EUIPO, ERA, EASA, FRA and SRB**) we observed weaknesses in public procurement, mostly relating to services, that put value for money at risk.

## Most agencies analysed BREXIT implications

**40** On 29 March 2017 the United Kingdom (UK) notified the European Council of its decision to withdraw from the European Union (Brexit). Unlike most of the other

agencies, five of them (**ACER, BERC Office, CEPOL, ENISA, EU-OSHA**) did not carry out a comprehensive analysis of the likely Brexit impact on their organisation, operations and accounts.

### Vacancy notices could be published on the EPSO website

**41** Most of the agencies (**ACER, Cedefop, CEPOL, Chafea, EASA, EBA, ECHA, EEA, EIGE, EIOPA, EIT, EMA, EMCDDA, EMSA, ENISA, ESMA, eu-LISA, Eurojust, Europol, Frontex, GSA, SRB**) publish vacancy notices on their own websites and on social media, but frequently not on the website of the European Personnel Selection Office (EPSO). A publication on the EPSO website would increase transparency and publicity. The main reason given by the agencies is that EPSO accepts the publication of vacancy notices only if this is done in all EU official languages, which entails high translation costs.

### Fewer observations on the legality and regularity of payments

**42** The number of observations on the legality and regularity of payments decreased to eight (2016: 11), which illustrates the agencies' continued efforts to comply with the legal framework, particularly the provisions laid down by the Financial and Staff Regulations. While five observations again addressed weaknesses related to procurement procedures (**EASO, EASA, EIGE, Frontex**), three observations related to recruitment procedures (**EASO, Cedefop, Frontex**).

### Budgetary management shows improvements

**43** Under the Financial Regulation, budget appropriations granted for a given year can be carried over to the next year under certain conditions. While the Financial Regulation does not set ceilings for such carry overs, excessive levels can indicate delays in the implementation of work programmes or procurement plans and can also be in contradiction with the budgetary principle of annuality. In 2017 we reported only 3 instances (2016: 28) of high carry overs for agencies. This decrease in 2017 resulted from a better and more transparent explanation and justification of carry overs by the agencies, but also by a change in our reporting approach. As from 2017, we are only reporting on carry overs if we do not consider them sufficiently justified.

**44** In addition, we reported cancellations of budget appropriations carried over from previous years for two agencies (**Frontex, EUIPO**). These indicated an overestimation of budgetary needs, notably on the part of public administrations of Member States and other cooperating countries.

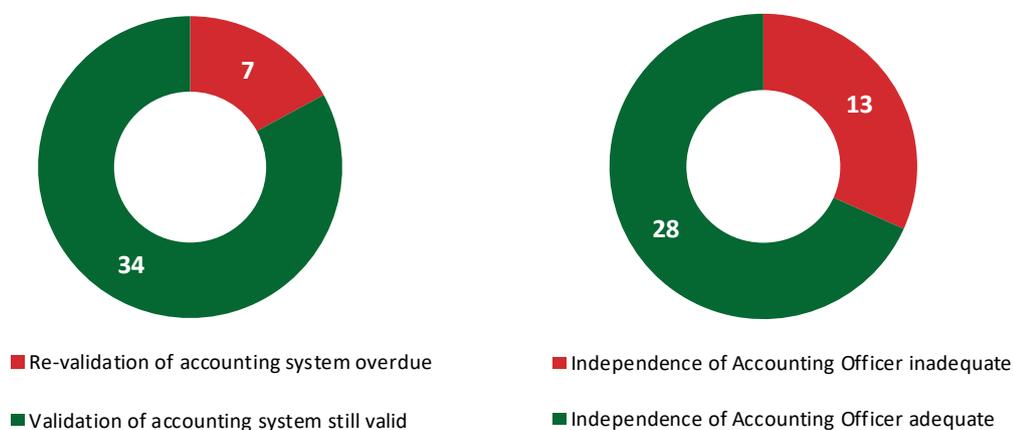
## Accounting environments could be further enhanced

**45** In the course of this year's annual audits, we also reviewed the agencies' accounting environments, which are an important element for the preparation of reliable accounts. In accordance with the Financial Regulation, each agency has its own accounting officer, which has led to a situation where a total of 37 accounting officers are in charge of 2 % of the European budget. In order to increase efficiency in 2012 the Commission's accounting officer invited the agencies to delegate their accounting functions to him on a contractual basis. By the end of 2017, only four agencies had joined this arrangement.

**46** The hierarchical position of an accounting officer within an agency can affect his independence. In particular, accounting officers need to be independent from anyone having (sub-) delegation to authorise commitments and payments. We see a need to strengthen the accounting officer's independence by making him directly responsible to the Agency's Director (administratively) and Board (functionally). This observation was included for a total of 13 agencies (**CdT, EACEA, EASA, EASME, EEA, EFSA, EIOPA, EMA, EMCDDA, ERA, EU-OSHA, Eurofound, FRA**).

**47** The Financial Regulation requires accounting officers to confirm the reliable functioning of the agencies' accounting systems (validation). While for most of the agencies their accounting systems are covered by up-to-date validations, we found that major changes made to the accounting systems of seven of the agencies (**ACER, BEREC Office, CEPOL, EASME, EIT, EMA, GSA**) require a timely re-validation.

**Figure 10 – Independence of agencies' accounting officers and re-validation of accounting system overdue**



Source: ECA based on information from agencies.

## We found internal control weaknesses in some agencies

**48** Some weakness in the implementation of the internal control standard concerning their business continuity plan were identified for three agencies (**ACER, EIT, Frontex**). These weaknesses might create a considerable risk to business continuity for example, in the event of major disasters, as data might be lost irretrievably.

## We report suspected fraud to OLAF

**49** In 2017, we found and reported to OLAF three instances of suspected fraud in the approximately 1 000 transactions and 150 procurement procedures that we audited for our statements of assurance on the agencies. The instances of suspected fraud concerned procurement irregularities. It is up to OLAF to investigate and follow up these cases, where appropriate in co-operation with national judicial authorities.

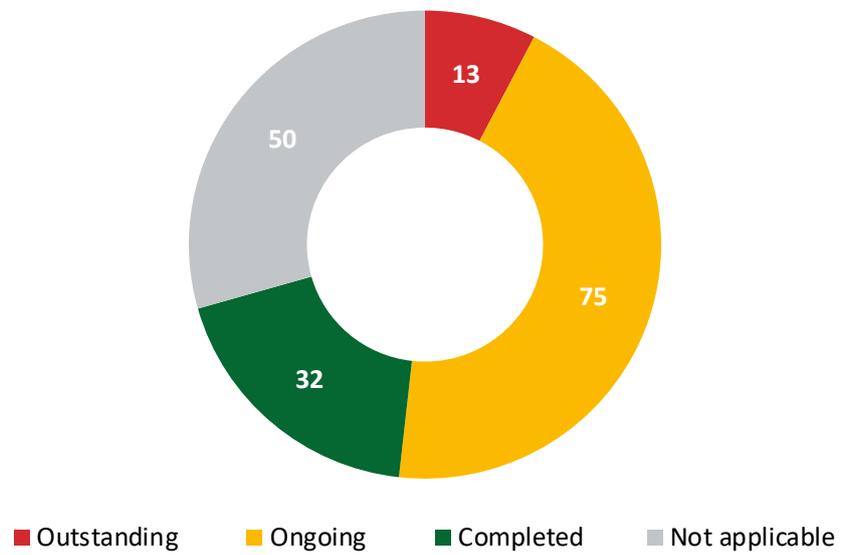
## We provide information on the Commission's internal audit service (IAS) and external evaluation reports

**50** We also referred, for information, to audit reports prepared by the IAS and to external evaluation reports prepared on behalf of the Commission. In 2017, there were 26 IAS reports and 9 instances where an external evaluation of an agency was carried out. We did not verify the related audit or evaluation processes.

## Agencies are following-up on previous years' audit findings

**51** Where applicable, we provided a status report on follow-up actions taken by the agencies in response to observations from previous years. **Figure 11** shows that for the 170 observations that had not been addressed at the end of 2016, corrective action was completed or ongoing in most cases. Out of the 13 outstanding observations, the corrective action needed in relation to 3 observations was not under the agency's control.

**Figure 11 – Agencies' efforts to follow-up previous years' observations**



Source: ECA.

# Audit results from other agency-related reports issued by the Court in 2017

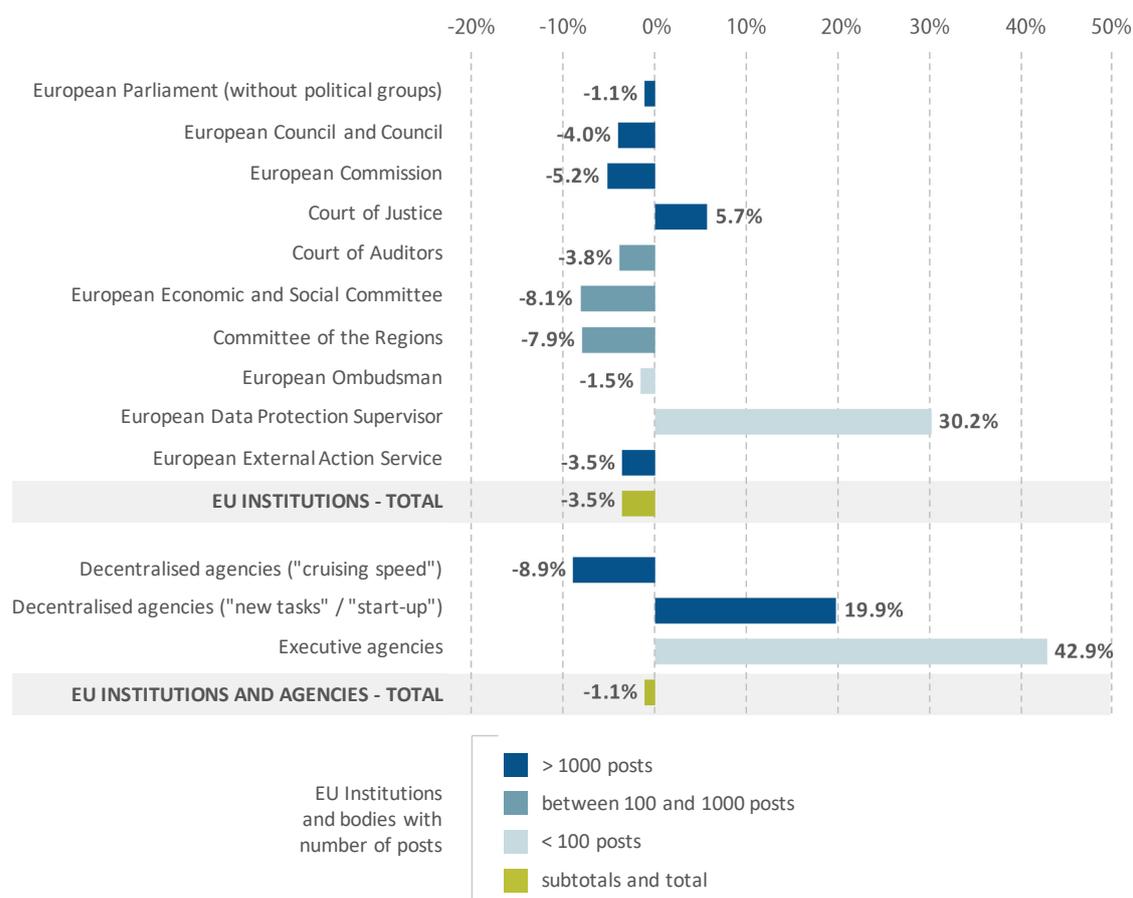
## ECA rapid case review on the implementation of the 5 % reduction of staff posts

**52** In 2017 the Court issued a rapid case review<sup>9</sup> on how European Union institutions and agencies implemented the commitment made to cut 5 % of staff in their establishment plans during the period 2013-2017 (for agencies 2014-2018). For the agencies we concluded that the 5 % reduction had been implemented, albeit with some delays. Whilst decentralised agencies with traditional tasks managed to decrease staff by 8.9 %, staff increased by 19.9 % and 42.9 % for the new tasks and responsibilities of some decentralised and executive agencies respectively. **Figure 12** shows the impact of the percentage change on the staff posts in the establishment plans of all institutions, bodies and agencies.

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<sup>9</sup> Rapid case review on the implementation of the 5 % reduction of staff posts; published on 21 December 2017.

**Figure 12 – Analysis of the variations in staff post numbers in the establishment plans between 2012 and 2017 (in percentage)**



Source: ECA.

## ECA special report on the SRB

**53** The Brussels-based Single Resolution Board (SRB) was set up in August 2014 as part of the policy response to the financial crisis. Its mission is the resolution of any of the banks within its remit if they are failing. In January 2017 the SRB had 139 banks (2018:127) including 130 banking groups under its remit<sup>10</sup>.

**54** The special audit<sup>11</sup> examined whether the SRB is equipped to carry out bank resolutions effectively and analysed the quality of the SRB's resolution planning for individual banks, whether the SRB was adequately set up to comply with its statutory

<sup>10</sup> On 1 January 2018 the number had reduced to 127 banks and 119 banking groups.

<sup>11</sup> Special report 23/2017: 'Single Resolution Board: Work on a challenging Banking Union task started, but still a long way to go'; published on 19 December 2017

framework for resolution planning and whether the SRB had adequate human resources to carry out its tasks.

**55** We found shortcomings in all of these areas, although the set-up of the SRB as a completely new structure was a very significant challenge and any weaknesses must be seen in this context. We made a number of recommendations relating to the preparation of resolution plans and completing its rules and guidance and on the improvement of staffing levels and HR procedures.

### **ECA specific annual report on contingent liabilities arising as a result of the SRB's performance of its tasks**

**56** The Single Resolution Mechanism Regulation provides<sup>12</sup> that the Court must prepare a report on any contingent liabilities arising as a result of the performance by the SRB, the Council and the Commission of their tasks under this Regulation. As of 31 December 2016, the SRB's contingent liability amounted to 842 million euros from ex-ante contributions, which rose to 1 420 million euros as of 30 September 2017. No bank resolutions were initiated by the SRB in 2016 and consequently no contingent liability was to be disclosed in relation to resolution decisions for the financial year 2016. However, due to the resolution decision taken on Banco Popular Español S.A. in June 2017, 90 legal cases had been brought against the SRB before the General Court of the European Court of Justice (ECJ) and 46 appeals submitted to the SRB's appeal panel by the end of October 2017 when our 2016 report on contingent liabilities arising as a result of the SRB's performance of its tasks was published. The Commission and the Council had been notified of 26 cases brought before the General Court of the ECJ in connection with that same resolution decision. The related contingent liabilities will be subject to our audit and report for the financial year 2017.

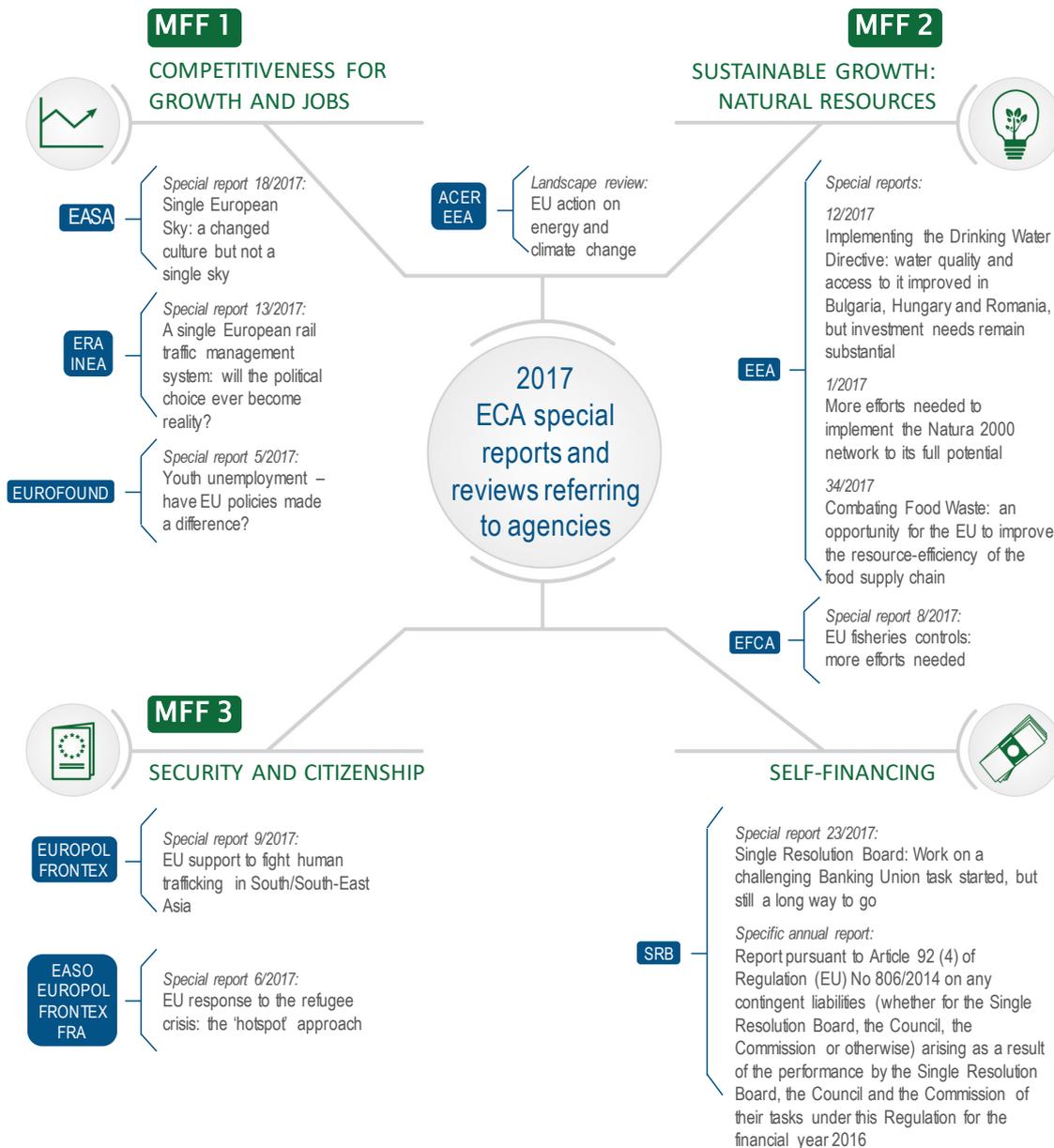
### **Other ECA special reports also referring to one or more agencies**

**57** Apart from audit reports specifically dedicated to the agencies, in the course of 2017 we also issued a number of special audit reports on EU policy implementation which referred to a number of agencies (see **Figure 13**).

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<sup>12</sup> Article 92(4) of Single Resolution Mechanism Regulation.

**Figure 13 – Other ECA special audit reports referring to agencies**



Source: ECA.

## List of acronyms used for the EU agencies and other bodies

Acronym	Full name	Location
<b>ACER</b>	Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators	Ljubljana, Slovenia
<b>BEREC Office</b>	Office of the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications	Riga, Latvia
<b>CdT</b>	Translation Centre for the Bodies of the European Union	Luxembourg, Luxembourg
<b>Cedefop</b>	European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training	Thessaloniki, Greece
<b>CEPOL</b>	European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Training	Budapest, Hungary
<b>Chafea</b>	Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency	Luxembourg, Luxembourg
<b>CPVO</b>	Community Plant Variety Office	Angers, France
<b>EACEA</b>	Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency	Brussels, Belgium
<b>EASA</b>	European Aviation Safety Agency	Cologne, Germany
<b>EASME</b>	Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises	Brussels, Belgium
<b>EASO</b>	European Asylum Support Office	Valletta, Malta
<b>EBA</b>	European Banking Authority	London, UK
<b>ECDC</b>	European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control	Stockholm, Sweden
<b>ECHA</b>	European Chemicals Agency	Helsinki, Finland
<b>EEA</b>	European Environment Agency	Copenhagen, Denmark
<b>EFCA</b>	European Fisheries Control Agency	Vigo, Spain
<b>EFSA</b>	European Food Safety Authority	Parma, Italy
<b>EIGE</b>	European Institute for Gender Equality	Vilnius, Lithuania
<b>EIOPA</b>	European Insurance and Occupational Pensions Authority	Frankfurt, Germany
<b>EIT</b>	European Institute of Innovation and Technology	Budapest, Hungary
<b>EMA</b>	European Medicines Agency	London, UK
<b>EMCDDA</b>	European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction	Lisbon, Portugal

<b>EMSA</b>	European Maritime Safety Agency	Lisbon, Portugal
<b>ENISA</b>	European Union Agency for Network and Information Security	Heraklion, Greece
<b>ERA</b>	European Union Agency for Railways	Valenciennes, France
<b>ERCEA</b>	European Research Council Executive Agency	Brussels, Belgium
<b>ESMA</b>	European Securities and Markets Authority	Paris, France
<b>ETF</b>	European Training Foundation	Turin, Italy
<b>EUIPO</b>	European Union Intellectual Property Office	Alicante, Spain
<b>eu-LISA</b>	European Agency for the operational management of large-scale IT systems in the area of freedom, security and justice	Tallinn, Estonia
<b>EU-OSHA</b>	European Agency for Safety and Health at Work	Bilbao, Spain
<b>Euratom</b>	Euratom Supply Agency	Luxembourg, Luxembourg
<b>Eurofound</b>	European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions	Dublin, Ireland
<b>Eurojust</b>	The European Union's Judicial Cooperation Unit	The Hague, The Netherlands
<b>Europol</b>	European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation	The Hague, The Netherlands
<b>FRA</b>	European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights	Vienna, Austria
<b>Frontex</b>	European Border and Coast Guard Agency	Warsaw, Poland
<b>GSA</b>	European Global Navigation Satellite Systems Agency	Prague, Czech Republic
<b>INEA</b>	Innovation & Networks Executive Agency	Brussels, Belgium
<b>REA</b>	Research Executive Agency	Brussels, Belgium
<b>SRB</b>	Single Resolution Board	Brussels, Belgium



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