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Two new studies highlight the significant contribution of EU Agencies to citizens and administrations



The 45 EU Agencies and Joint Undertakings make a vast contribution to the economic and political development of the European Union according to two new studies presented today during the EU Agencies Forum at the European Parliament. The studies highlight that while the EU Agencies represent less than 0.8% of the EU's annual budget their contribution has widespread impact at citizen, industry and policy level.

The first study analyses the cost-effectiveness of the seven EU Agencies operating to support the Internal Market, and how they reduce the overall costs to taxpayers. The second study focuses on the contribution of 44 Agencies and Joint Undertakings to the Europe 2020 Strategy and the Juncker Commission Agenda.

The studies will be discussed today and tomorrow during the first EU Agencies Forum at the European Parliament. Vice-President of the European Parliament, Mairead McGuinness and Kristalina Georgieva, Vice-President of the European Commission, are speakers at the event. António Campinos, Executive Director of the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) which is currently Chair of the *EU Agencies Network*, said: *"The EU Agencies are the familiar face of the EU for many Europeans, delivering essential services on the ground for a relatively small proportion of the overall EU budget - less than 0.8%, to be exact. In other terms, they cost €1.23 euros per EU citizen. The cost benefit ratio is hence very positive, and as the EU Parliament study has shown, agencies save national administrations many millions every year, by delivering synergies and preventing duplication of efforts in each Member State."*

Agencies are cost effective and save money

Overall, the 2015 budget of the EU Agencies represents less than 0.8% of the EU's annual budget (about €1.2 billion), while creating significant efficiencies and delivering value for EU citizens across a wide range of policy areas, according to a report by Deloitte (link). A second report commissioned by the European

Parliament estimates that it would cost Member States up to €200 million a year to assume the tasks currently done by just seven of the 45 agencies1 (link).

Agencies are close to EU citizens and businesses

As well as supporting the top political priorities of the European Union, EU Agencies play an important role in many other aspects of the everyday life of citizens: in disease prevention and control, security and defence, education and knowledge, stability of the financial systems, and in the fields of digital connectivity or transport, among others.

In 32 cities across 24 Member States, EU Agencies work to improve the EU industry and citizens' lives in many ways. For example:

- **Frontex, the European Border and Coastguard Agency**, currently deploys some 1 200 officers at EU's external borders and has helped to rescue more than 89 000 people at sea so far this year;
- The **European Asylum Support Office** currently deploys over 300 staff in around 20 locations in Italy and Greece. They are working to support the implementation of the EU Relocation Programme and EU-TR Statement. EASO has an important role in better managing the Common European Asylum System;
- In 2015, **Europol, the EU's law enforcement agency**, supported more than 40,000 investigations against terrorism and serious crime;
- The **EU's Intellectual Property Office's** study on the economic contribution of Intellectual Property Rights shows that IPR intensive industries in the EU now support directly or indirectly 38% of jobs and 42% of the EU's GDP;
- Since 2010, the **European Institute of Innovation & Technology** (EIT) has created Europe's largest innovation community, helped set up 32 innovation hubs across Europe, and supported the creation of more than 200 innovative start-ups and entrepreneurship training for 2,000 students and graduates;
- From 2014-2020 the **Bio-based Industries Joint Undertaking** is administering €3.7bn investments in bio-based innovation and will be funding more than 200 cooperative projects through cross-industry clusters;
- The **EMCDDA** (EU drugs agency in Lisbon), monitors over 560 new psychoactive substances through an EU Early Warning System. Where required, it assesses the risks of these substances to public health in Europe;
- The **European Medicines Agency** has recommended over 1000 new medicines for the treatment of patients. In addition to monitoring approved medicines, it also addresses the challenges holding back the development of new medicines, including new antibiotics.

NOTE FOR EDITORS

The two studies on EU Agencies and Joint-Undertakings

The first study on "*The Cost of Non-Agencies with Relevance to the Internal Market*" was requested by the Budget Committee of the European Parliament and prepared by the Centre for Strategy & Evaluation Services (link). It shows that the Agencies reduce the overall costs to taxpayers. This report is a snapshot covering just seven agencies:

- The European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO);
- The European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA);
- The European Medicines Agency (EMA);
- The European Chemicals Agency (ECHA);
- European Banking Authority (EBA);
- The European Securities Markets Authority (ESMA);
- The European Insurance & Occupational Pensions (EIOPA).

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The report shows that it is significantly more cost effective to perform a task once at EU level than to replicate it 28 times at national level.

The second study on "*How do EU Agencies and Bodies contribute to the Europe 2020 strategy and to the Juncker Commission Agenda?"* (link) was commissioned by the EU Agencies Network from the consultants Deloitte. It looks at how the EU agencies and bodies contribute to the Europe 2020 strategy and the Juncker Agenda.

The EU Agencies Network
The 45 decentralised Agencies and Joint Undertakings of the EU closely interact and cooperate within the EU Agencies Network, a Pan-European network, set up by the Heads of EU Agencies, as a collective voice for the Agencies to coordinate, exchange information and agree common positions of shared interest.

For more information

For more details about the Forum, see the Agenda.

Follow the EU Agencies and the event on Twitter via #EUAgencies and #euagenciesforum

Click here and find out more about how the 45 EU Agencies and Joint Undertakings.

Watch videos about the EU Agencies on YouTube here.

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[1]**The European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO); The European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA); The European Medicines Agency (EMA); The European Chemicals Agency (ECHA); The European Banking Authority (EBA); The European Securities Markets Authority (ESMA); The European Insurance & Occupational Pensions (EIOPA).**

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