



Press Release

Luxembourg, 8 November 2022

Recovery, energy, climate, security and many more topics under the scrutiny of EU auditors

The European Court of Auditors (ECA) today published its work programme for 2023 and beyond, listing its audit priorities for the near future. These will cover a broad range of issues, reflecting the EU's main challenges and key concerns in its response to the multiple crises it is facing. The auditors will continue to check whether the EU is making good use of taxpayers' money to achieve the intended results.

The ECA's 2023+ work programme contains a list of 82 topics linked to strategic priority areas. For example, 12 audits cover the €800 billion "NextGenerationEU" (NGEU) pandemic recovery package, mainly covering the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF). Under "climate change, the environment and natural resources", the work programme lists 21 audits, including on energy security, pollution, animal transport and sustainable food production. The ECA will also look into the EU's external action, such as the aid for refugees, military mobility and the Common Foreign and Security Policy.

"Every citizen of the EU and its Member States is being confronted with the effects of multiple crises: the global pandemic, rapid climate change and, more recently, a massive energy, security and migration crisis caused by Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine", said ECA President Tony Murphy. *"We, as the EU's independent auditor, will therefore check that the EU funds were well spent to help overcome the effects of these multiple crises."*

The auditors will also examine key issues regarding the competitiveness of the EU economy, such as the production of batteries, investments in artificial intelligence and the promotion of hydrogen transport. On fiscal policies, they will look in particular at the EU's banking supervision, tax competition in the EU and the performance of the European Fund for Strategic Investments. Many other relevant EU topics will also be covered, from transparency of lobbying activities in EU decision-making and the rule of law to road safety and the digitalisation of healthcare. Finally, three audits will be dedicated to combating fraud: EU action to address conflicts of interest, the EU's anti-fraud strategy, and EU measures against VAT fraud on imports.

The purpose of this press release is to provide the main elements of the 2023+ work programme of the European Court of Auditors. The full work programme is on www.eca.europa.eu.

ECA Press

12, rue Alcide De Gasperi – L-1615 Luxembourg

E: press@eca.europa.eu @EUAuditors eca.europa.eu

Background information

Through independent, professional, high-impact audit work, the ECA assesses the economy, effectiveness, efficiency, legality and regularity of EU action. Its audit reports and opinions are an essential element of the EU accountability chain – they hold to account those responsible for implementing EU policies and programmes: the European Commission, other EU bodies and administrations in Member States. They also help EU citizens to understand more clearly how the EU and its Member States are meeting current and future challenges.

The 2023+ work programme is available on the ECA's website eca.europa.eu.

Press contact

ECA press office: press@eca.europa.eu

- Vincent Bourgeais: vincent.bourgeais@eca.europa.eu - M: (+352) 691 551 502
- Damijan Fišer: damijan.fiser@eca.europa.eu - M: (+352) 621 552 224
- Claudia Spiti: claudia.spiti@eca.europa.eu - M: (+352) 691 553 547