



EUROPEAN
COURT
OF AUDITORS

GUARDIANS OF THE EU'S FINANCES

Who checks that EU policies meet their objectives and taxpayers' money is well spent?

The European Court of Auditors are the guardians of the EU's finances in all EU member states and around the world



€600
each year

EU spends €600 per year on each citizen of the 27 member states

January 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
February 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
March 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
April 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
May 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
June 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
July 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
August 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
September 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
October 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
November 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
December 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

EU Auditors check:

- Whether the money spent adds value and results are achieved
- Whether there are risks of misspending
- Whether EU policy objectives are achieved economically, efficiently and effectively

How do the EU Auditors help improve the EU's financial management?

Just spending the money correctly is not enough



EU Auditors help to make sure every euro really counts



The EU Auditors examine, for example, whether ...

Infrastructure

is built and people actually use it



Green projects

address environmental and climate challenges



Jobs & growth

are really being delivered



Recovery funds (NGEU)

are used effectively



Who are the EU Auditors?

They are independent
from other EU and
national bodies



Engineering

Audit

They come
from a range of
professional
backgrounds

Accountancy

Law

Economics

Financial
management

They have a dedicated
support team of
translators and other
administrative staff



How do the EU Auditors help to make sure EU spending achieves value for money?

A lot of spending is managed jointly with the member states



EU Auditors visit projects on the ground ...
... where they check that EU taxpayers' money is being used properly

They publish reports suggesting improvements, to be read by:

European Parliament and Council

policymakers in the member states

EU citizens







FIND US ON



eca.europa.eu

European Court of Auditors
12, rue Alcide De Gasperi
1615 Luxembourg
LUXEMBOURG

Luxembourg: Publications Office
of the European Union, 2024

© European Union, 2024 (CC BY 4.0)

ISBN 978-92-849-2323-6
doi:10.2865/736763

QJ-09-24-448-EN-N