

STRENGTHENING DEMOCRATIC RESILIENCE WITH NEW REGULATORY TOOLS

DRAFT BUDGETARY PLAN 2027

FOR THE AUTHORITY FOR EUROPEAN POLITICAL PARTIES AND EUROPEAN POLITICAL FOUNDATIONS

Part I: Our work streams to protect European democracy

A. Mission of the Authority

In line with Article 10(4) of the Treaty on European Union, political parties at European level contribute to forming European political awareness and to expressing the will of the citizens of the Union. European political foundations contribute to the debate on European public policy issues.

Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 October 2014 on the statute and funding of European political parties and European political foundations (“Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014”) established an independent Authority for European Political Parties and European Political Foundations (the “Authority”) for the purpose of registering, controlling and, where necessary, imposing sanctions on European political parties and European political foundations. Additionally, the Authority provides transparency services to the Union citizens by publishing key information on European political parties and European political foundations. The Authority’s team conducts this mission independently, efficiently and in respect of political pluralism. It contributes proactively to the European Union’s “Team democratic integrity” in close cooperation with the Parliament, other Union institutions, bodies and agencies, as well as competent national authorities.

Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2025/2445 repeals and replaces Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 as of 28 December 2025. It will fully apply from the 2027 budget year. While Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2025/2445 carries forward all existing control and verification processes conducted by the Authority, it adds a significant number of new ones as well.

Pursuant to Article 6(7) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014, the Authority is required to draw up the 2027 draft budgetary plan on the basis of the existing legal framework. Nevertheless, the Authority must already take due account of the imminent legislative changes, including a broader mandate for the Authority, a reinforcement of its supervisory mandate and its transparency obligations, as well as the introduction of additional procedural and operational

requirements. Accordingly, while this document is formally still based on Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 as in force at the time of writing, it reflects the Authority's forthcoming budgetary and human-resources needs so as to ensure the effective and timely implementation of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2025/2445 which will be the legal framework in 2027.

Pursuant to Article 6(7) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014, the appropriations for the expenditure of the Authority are provided under a separate Title in the Section for the European Parliament in the general budget of the European Union. According to that provision, those appropriations must be sufficient to ensure the full and independent operation of the Authority. This will remain the case in the future, pursuant to Article 8(7) of Regulation 2025/2445.

B. Preparing for growing challenges and an expanded mandate under the recently adopted Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2025/2445

In 2027, the Authority will enter a new phase of its operational development not only because of regulatory framework evolutions, but also in light of the rapidly evolving political and geopolitical context, as well as technological and societal challenges affecting democracy.

The Authority's enhanced mandate under Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2025/2445 covers an expanded range of areas, including enhanced values compliance, strengthened safeguards against foreign interference, reinforced transparency rules, broadened financial supervision obligations, new categories of joint political activities, a differentiated path leading to sanctions depending on the type of infringements (i.e. quantifiable or non-quantifiable), and new responsibilities under the Artificial Intelligence Act.

In order to face such challenges and operational demands, to ensure the continued protection of the integrity and transparency of European democratic processes, the Authority is regularly adjusting and reinforcing its internal capacity and operational structures as indicated below.

- **Increasing numbers of entities under the Authority's control**

Following the 2024 elections to the European Parliament, the political landscape at European level has evolved. While from 2019 to 2024, the Authority had a total of 20 entities under its purview (10 European political parties and 10 European political foundations), 2 new European political parties were registered in 2024 and 2 additional European political foundations were registered in 2025.

Verification procedures as well as compliance controls, transparency services and administrative follow-up are therefore bound to increase proportionally by at least 20% - likely more because of the specific administrative challenges posed by unexperienced entities - which will in 2027, the first year when all 24 entities will submit full annual financial statements (in that case for 2026), inevitably require further resources.

- **Enhanced values compliance verification standards**

Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2025/2445 requires extended verification procedure relating to the values upon which the Union is founded. This procedure now applies not only to European political parties and European political foundations themselves, but also to extends to European political parties and European political foundations ensuring that their member parties and member organisations, including associated members from third countries, comply with those values.

In case a relevant case arises, taking account also of the strict conditions for de-registration of European political parties or European political foundations concerned, the Authority will have to perform very thorough substantive assessments, requiring deeper analysis, in more languages, and involving potentially additional information requests, information exchange with national contact points and systematic follow-up workflows.

- **Increased requirements on statutes and internal governance**

Regulation 2025/2445 introduces more detailed requirements relating to statutory safeguards against foreign interference, gender balance and transparency provisions, as well as governance structures.

While certain elements reflect existing administrative practice, the new legal obligations require intensified scrutiny, documentation, and regular verification by the Authority.

- **Reinforced obligations on donations, contributions and own resources**

Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2025/2445 significantly reinforces financial transparency requirements on European political parties and foundations, creating new categories of resources and expanding the scope of transactions subject to control, as well as control powers and methodology of the Authority. This includes, among others:

- Enhanced transparency for all donations and contributions, extending to contributions above EUR 1 500 by individual members of European political parties and European political foundations;
- Enhanced donor identification for donations exceeding EUR 3 000 per donor/per year, requiring the Authority to request and verify additional information on the basis of a new form;
- Restriction of contributions to European political foundations exclusively from EU-based sources, thus generating enhanced compliance control workload for the Authority;
- A new category of self-generated resources, including non-profit economic activities and and new thresholds, requiring additional verification and interpretation efforts.

These changes substantially increase the financial monitoring workload and require new administrative tools, procedures, and staff resources.

- **New categories of activities - evolving prohibition of indirect funding**

New categories of political activities have been introduced, including:

- joint European political activities for European political parties;
- training and capacity-building activities for European political foundations.

These additions require the Authority to provide guidance, assess requests, interpret the scope of eligible activities, and conduct ex-ante and ex-post controls, significantly intensifying its workload and supervisory work.

- **Differentiated sanctions system - litigation risk**

Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2025/2445 establishes distinct sanctioning regimes depending on whether the infringement is quantifiable or non-quantifiable. In particular, the new Article 35 provides for the possibility of imposing corrective measures aimed at remedying the situation of non-quantifiable infringement. Conversely, the possibility of applying corrective measures in cases of quantifiable infringements has been removed from Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2025/2445. This change will inevitably result in increased legal workload related to the adoption of formal sanction decisions, and may give rise to additional litigation, for which the Authority does not have a legal service nor staffing resources to create one.

- **New transparency obligations on European political parties**

Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2025/2445 strengthens transparency rules applicable to European political parties, including:

- Publication of logo and political programme on their website;
- Gender balance transparency of candidates, with obligations also extending to member parties;
- Gender balance rules for governing bodies relevant for both registration and ongoing verifications.

These obligations are explicitly linked to the Authority's monitoring duties, requiring the Authority to establish new verification workflows and additional communication and follow-up procedures.

- **New publication obligations on the Authority**

The Authority's publication duties have expanded to include new categories of data and more detailed information on donations, contributions, and self-generated resources. This increases the volume and frequency of publication tasks, requiring reinforced internal processes to ensure accuracy and timeliness. These publications moreover will have to be made in open data format, which creates specific IT challenges for documents available from the originator only in authenticated (e.g. notarised) version.

- **Enhanced preventive workflows**

Drawing upon case law and accumulated administrative experience, the Authority issues guidance documents on various topics on its website. These guidance materials are periodically supplemented to address evolving needs, and are being radically updated and complemented with additional sections in light of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2025/2445.

Additionally, considering in particular the removal by the legislator of the opportunity for European political parties and foundations to adopt corrective measures before sanctions for quantifiable infringements, the entry into force of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2025/2445 is being accompanied by the Authority by a Regulatory Compliance Action Plan (R-CAP). This preventive tool will allow parties and foundations to raise with the Authority questions on planned financial transactions and activities before they occur, thus contributing to the mitigation of compliance risks but also significantly increasing the Authority's workload.

- **New responsibilities under the AI Act**

Under Article 77 of Regulation (EU) 2024/1689 laying down harmonised rules on artificial intelligence (the Artificial Intelligence Act), the Authority assumes defined responsibilities requiring coordination, reporting, and monitoring within the framework of AI systems used by supervised entities. This introduces new workflows and multidisciplinary coordination needs. In particular, the Authority notified a AI contact point to the European Data Protection Supervisor.

- **Enhanced cooperation with other competent bodies**

In addition and complementary to the above and to the close cooperation with the European Parliament, the Authority has developed relations with other EU institutions, agencies and bodies, as well as national contact points, data protection and cybersecurity authorities. In this vein, the Authority organised an annual conference with the Authority's National Contact Points as defined in Article 2(10) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014, to deepen mutual understanding and exchange best practices. Additionally, the Authority set up a European Information Exchange Platform on Political Parties and Political Foundations Supervision in order to create synergies among the Authority and Member States' competent authorities.

Moreover, the Authority signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Central Electoral Commission of the Republic of Moldova on exchange of best practices on 26 September 2024, in light of - but without prejudice to - the EU accession process of Moldova. The Republic of Moldova is exposed to significant levels of malign foreign interference attempts in its democratic processes. The Authority's cooperation with Moldova aims to defend democracy and making both: (1) a positive contribution on the ground and (2) helping to tackle more comprehensively a threat that affects all European democracies.

All such partnerships need to continuously be nurtured and reinforced in the years to come, requiring further efforts for the Authority in terms of time and human resources allocations.

- **Flanking measures**

The Authority continued to proactively raise awareness on European democracy among key multipliers, in particular by a school competition organised on a yearly basis, with the aim of raising awareness about the European democracy system and its functioning, especially in young and first time voters. The pupils were encouraged to put their thoughts about the European democracy on paper and share them with the public. The aim was to encourage the first time voters to reflect on how European democracy relates to their daily lives and the lives of the citizens in general. We also challenged them to think about measures to make EU democracy as lively and the voices of the citizens as relevant as possible.

The topic of the 2025 edition focused on how the European Union can best uphold its democratic values in a world order increasingly challenged by autocratic tendencies.

In addition to honouring one school class from the current EU Member States, the Authority decided to extend additionally a Special Prize (a tailor-made visit to the European Parliament) to a school class in Moldova that will be selected on the basis of essay and video contributions with the help of a high level inter-institutional expert jury.

C. Support provided by the European Parliament to the Authority

While the Authority has made efficient use of its own resources for the above efforts, and in particular benefited from the high level of personal commitment of its small number of staff, it should be recognised also that the Authority's own capacity is complemented by administrative support provided by the European Parliament and by staff allocated to it. Before indicating resource needs, it is therefore relevant to summarise the budgetary structure and administrative support services already provided by the European Parliament.

The European Parliament has been supporting the Authority in the following ways:

- In accordance with Article 6(7) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014, to ensure the Authority's full and independent operations, the Authority manages independently an operational budget line on the European Parliament's budget title, with means to cover task-specific expenditure exceeding the scope of administrative support services, in budget item 5 0 0 dedicated to "*Operational expenditure of the Authority for European Political Parties and European Political Foundations*".
- Furthermore, in accordance with Article 6(4) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014, the Authority is physically located in the European Parliament, which provides the Authority with the necessary offices and administrative support to conduct its main activities.

The Authority and the European Parliament implemented this system of cooperation more specifically across the following areas:

- **Staff management:** Pursuant to Article 6(6) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014, a Service Level Agreement was signed in September 2021 with the Directorate-General for Personnel of the European Parliament (“DG Personnel”). The agreement defines the conditions under which DG Personnel provides certain services to the Authority and describes the cooperation of DG Personnel and the Authority concerning various functions coming under personnel management or associated therewith (medical service, missions, well-being at work etc.). The agreement does not concern the provision of posts, which remain a matter for the budgetary procedure and arrangements between the Institutions for allocating the resulting burden.
- **Translation services:** Translation services are currently provided by the European Parliament.
- **Training services:** The Authority’s staff has currently access to trainings and related services provided by the European Parliament, including by virtue of the Service Level Agreement with DG Personnel mentioned above. In addition, the appropriations envisaged in Part II below provide the Authority with a certain financial autonomy to source additional training services from the market (*e.g.*, audit and accounting), should the Authority need specialised trainings outside the catalogue made available by the European Parliament.
- **Premises:** Pursuant to Article 6(4) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014, the Authority is located in the European Parliament, which provides the necessary office space and administrative support facilities. In this context, a Service Level Agreement with the Directorate-General for Infrastructure and Logistics of the European Parliament was signed in December 2021. The Authority is based mainly in Parliament’s premises in Brussels. Additionally, the Authority also obtained one office in Strasbourg, in order to be represented, when required, during Parliament’s plenary part-sessions, in particular, to meet institutional representatives and stakeholders.
- **IT services:** The purchase, hire, servicing and maintenance of hardware and software for standard operations and related services are currently provided by the European Parliament. In this context, a Service Level Agreement with the Directorate-General for Innovation and Technological Support of the European Parliament was signed on 10 January 2023.

In addition, the appropriations envisaged in Part II below provides the Authority with a certain financial autonomy to explore alternative IT solutions that are not available in the European Parliament to respond to needs relating to the performance of its duties, in particular relating to auditing and investigating software.

- **Internal audit:** A memorandum of understanding with Parliament’s internal auditor was signed in January 2022.
- **Office supplies:** The Authority makes use of the Parliament’s framework contract for office supplies, but pays from its own operational budget line for it.

- **Postage services:** Postage services, including processing and delivery by national postal services or private delivery firms, are provided by the European Parliament.
- **Missions and duty travel:** Services related to the organisation and payment of missions and duty travel are provided by the European Parliament.
- **Documentation services:** Documentation services, including subscriptions to newspapers and periodicals and access to the library, are provided by the European Parliament.

D. Looking ahead - main resources needs

- **Impact of the revised regulatory framework**

In 2027, upon entry into force of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2025/2445, the Authority will be required to address new challenges and expanded operational demands to guarantee the effective implementation of the broadened regulatory framework. The substantial obligations imposed on both the Authority and the entities under its supervision—as detailed extensively in Part I.B of this document—will lead to a significant increase in the Authority’s regulatory, supervisory, and administrative responsibilities and workload.

Under Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2025/2445, the Authority’s mandate will be considerably expanded, encompassing a wider array of areas, including strengthened values-compliance mechanisms, enhanced safeguards against foreign interference, reinforced transparency requirements, extended financial supervision duties, newly established categories of joint political activities, a differentiated path leading to sanctions depending on the type of infringements (i.e. quantifiable or non-quantifiable), and additional tasks arising under the Artificial Intelligence Act.

To meet these challenges and operational requirements, and to ensure the continued protection of the integrity and transparency of European democratic processes, the Authority will need to adapt and strengthen its internal capacities and organisational structures, ideally supported by additional resources.

- **Increasing numbers of entities under the Authority’s control**

As already mentioned above, the Authority registered two new European political parties and two new European political foundations.

This expansion has already resulted in a growing workload for the Authority, particularly in the registration, verification and compliance oversight of these entities. In the coming years, additional resources will be essential to manage the increased number of registered European political parties and potentially their affiliated foundations effectively in full respect of established timelines and necessary control standards, such as the four-eye principle. The Authority’s teams will need to perform all necessary checks and investigations taking into

account that no economies of scale are possible and that each entity is unique and needs a differentiated approach according to its peculiarities.

- **Defending democracy in 2027: adapting to the evolving legislative and geopolitical context**

In 2027, the Authority will need to fully implement controls on the basis of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2025/2445, including in particular for a first compliance controls cycle for 2026 during which the financial provisions controlled by the Authority will already have applied. Additionally, the Authority will have to further engage with international actors in order to exchange best practices as regards supervision of political parties financing, transparency and electoral campaigns integrity, and cooperate in specific practical cases.

In particular, foreign interference threats need to be addressed in the current geopolitical situation in light of the Authority's mandate. The Authority will continue to be proactive in reaching out and raising awareness among a network of bodies and institutions relevant to the joint defence of European democracy, ranging from the European Parliament's Directorate-General for Communication to the European External Action Service, the Hybrid Centre of Excellence and the European Data Protection Board (EDPB). This entails not only awareness-raising, but also dedicated events organised by the Authority in this respect.

As digital infrastructure and AI systems become more integral to operations of European political parties and foundations, the need for enhanced cybersecurity and data protection increases. In this regard, the Authority will need to ensure that sensitive data is protected in compliance with evolving security and privacy regulations.

In addition, the Authority will continue its work to enhance transparency and public access to information, in order to respond to increasing demands for transparency in political processes, particularly in light of public scrutiny and accountability. Such goal necessitates additional resources to manage and provide easy access to information regarding the activities and financial statements of political parties and foundations.

- **Implications for the Authority's work**

The extension of the Authority's mandate makes it necessary to propose an appropriate level of resources. Additional work streams on verifications, transparency and preventing threats of foreign interference will complement the tasks of the Authority's staff.

Part II: Appropriations

The breakdown provided hereunder comprises projected expenditure appropriations for administrative support by the European Parliament, the Authority's dedicated budget items 500 and expenditure appropriations concerning staff salaries. The Authority's dedicated budget items 500 are included under *Section I - European Parliament* of the general budget of the

European Union. The appropriations foreseen in budget item 500 aim to provide the Authority with a certain financial independence to finance specific professional trainings, purchase specialised studies and analysis following the European Parliament elections, expertise and advice, cover legal costs and damages, documentation and outreach activities, as well as other administrative costs not covered by Parliament's administrative support services.

Amounts provided below for 2027 are best estimates at the time of writing and depend on the number of full time equivalents that will be working for the Authority in 2027. The Authority will monitor the evolution of its needs and, if necessary, review this budgetary plan and the amounts contained therein to align them to that evolution.

A. Support from the Institutions (EP)

The budget items corresponding to the support appropriations listed below are currently included in the respective chapters of the budget of the European Parliament, with the respective lines managed by the relevant Authorising Officers of the European Parliament.

Nature of expenditure	Assessment	Amount (EUR) for financial year 2026	Amount (EUR) for financial year 2027
Language services (Chap 14)	Costs of translation and interpretation services	10 726,26	10 940,79
Professional trainings (Chap 16)	Costs of trainings	12 871,51	13 128,94
Building, IT and ancillary expenses (Chap 20 and 21)	Expenditure related to premises and standard operations	268 156,72	273 519,85
Missions (Chap 30)	Costs of missions and duty travel	101 899,55	103 937,54
Documentation services (Chap 32)	Costs of access to available documentation	2 681,03	2 734,65
Total		396 335,07	404 261,77

B. Appropriations under item 5 0 0

In accordance with Article 6(7) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014, the Authority shall have a separate Title in the Section for the European Parliament in the general budget of the European Union, which has been located in Title V - budget item 5 0 0.

The same legislative provision requires that these appropriations shall be sufficient to ensure the full and independent operation of the Authority. Consequently, they cover in particular expenditure specifically related to the mission of the Authority, namely professional trainings, purchase of non-standard software and hardware, acquisition of expertise and advice, legal costs and damages, documentation and outreach activities, as well as other costs, including administrative costs. These appropriations may also cover costs invoiced by an institution, in case the Authority exceeds the thresholds agreed with that institution when sourcing goods or services in the context of the agreements and administrative arrangements concluded under Article 6 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014.

With efficiency considerations in mind, the corresponding request for 2027 is stable in real terms, as its evolution would be limited to a low inflation scenario adjustment.

Resources	Legal Basis	Amount (EUR) for financial year 2026	Amount (EUR) for financial year 2027
Budget item of the Authority 5 0 0(*)	Article 6(7) of Reg. No 1141/2014	416 160,00	424 483,20

(*) It is understood that the appropriations to be foreseen for the functioning of the Committee for Independent Eminent Persons are additional to this amount, and included in a separate budget item.

C. Appropriations relating to staff

In accordance with Article 6(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014, the Director shall be assisted by staff in relation to whom he or she is the appointing authority. Currently, the Authority's posts for staff as well as contract agent appropriations are ringfenced in the corresponding budget lines of the European Parliament's budget. The necessary staff-related appropriations are based on the detailed analysis provided in the Annex attached herewith and estimated as follows, taking into account the annual inflation adjustments for 2026 and 2027:

Resources	Legal Basis	Amount (EUR) for financial year 2026	Amount (EUR) for financial year 2027
Staff-related appropriations of the Authority	Article 6(7) of Reg. No 1141/2014	3 565 614,84	3 636 927,14

D. Overall expenditure appropriations deemed necessary for the Authority

Resources	Legal Basis	Amount (EUR) for financial year 2026	Amount (EUR) for financial year 2027
Administrative support from EP	Article 6(4) of Reg. No 1141/2014	396 335,07	404 261,77
Budget item of the Authority 5 0 0(*)	Article 6(7) of Reg. No 1141/2014	416 160,00	424 483,20
Staff-related appropriations for the Authority		3 565 614,84	3 636 927,14
Total		4 378 109,91	4 465 672,11

(*) It is understood that the appropriations to be foreseen for the functioning of the Committee for Independent Eminent Persons are additional to this amount, and included in a separate budget item.

ANNEX: DETAILED ANALYSIS ON THE AUTHORITY'S STAFFING 2027

The assessment of the Authority presented in the budgetary plan 2027 is based on the analysis of the developments with regards to the factual environment and legal framework.

As the Authority's responsibilities grow, both in scope and complexity, compliance oversight, and enhanced transparency measures, while at the same time maximising efficiency, appropriations for operational expenditure could remain stable, whereas certain staffing adjustments will be necessary.

Having in mind its growing role in protecting democratic integrity, the Authority's request for staffing resources for 2027 is substantiated as follows:

1. Implement Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2025/2445 and expanded mandate, namely by:

- Intensifying verification procedures as well as compliance controls, transparency services and administrative follow-up due to the increasing numbers of entities under the Authority's control
- Expanding verification procedures for the enhanced values compliance
- Reinforcing scrutiny, documentation, and regular verification to meet the increased requirements on statutes and internal governance
- Reinforcing financial transparency checks, in particular on donations, contributions, and own resources
- Providing guidance, assessment and controls on new categories of activities to prevent undue indirect funding
- Comply with the differentiated path leading to sanctions depending on the type of infringements (i.e. quantifiable or non-quantifiable), and manage any increased litigation
- Establishing new verification workflows and additional communication and follow-up procedures to meet the enlarged transparency obligations
- Increasing the volume and frequency of publication tasks as a consequence of the new, expanded, publication and transparency tasks
- Adapting the enhanced transparency services towards citizens and providing continuous guidance
- Taking up the new responsibilities under the AI Act
- Reinforcing cooperation with other expert bodies at EU and national level

- Increasing and reinforcing horizontal measures aiming at raising awareness on European democracy.

2. Continue to provide core functions in a changing environment, namely by:

- Implementing verification and compliance control cycles in light of a number of European political parties increased by 20% compared to the previous legislature;
- Making available corresponding transparency services to citizens and continuous guidance;
- Enhancing cooperation with other expert bodies.

3. Implement projects to address growing geopolitical challenges, namely by:

- Countering foreign interference threats, capitalising on the experience gained during the election year;
- Fostering deeper collaboration and coordination with Member States and EU Institutions, agencies and bodies;
- Enhancing cybersecurity and data protection in cooperation with the European political parties and European political foundations;
- Providing guidance and scrutiny on European political parties' activities in light of the new framework relating to political advertisement.

The Authority is encouraged by the additional appropriations relating to contract staff earmarked in the European Parliament's staff-related budget lines as from 2024. However, the Authority wishes to reiterate its concern already expressed in the 2026 draft budgetary plan, consisting of the functional risks inherent to staffing arrangements increasingly reliant on contract agents which results in a potentially higher staff turnover. This was recognised also acknowledged by the European Commission in the explanatory memorandum annexed to its proposal for the recast of the Regulation meanwhile adopted, where it highlighted the Authority's need for stable human resources¹. Furthermore, the staffing levels of 2024 also quantitatively did not yet take into account the 20% increase in European political parties to control since the beginning of the new legislature, nor the new mandate resulting from Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2025/2445.

¹ See the Annexes to the Commission proposal COM(2021) 734 final of 25.11.2021, 2021/0375 (COD), Annex IV (Legislative Financial Statement), Point 1.4.2 (Specific objective(s)), last paragraph, stating that "It is necessary to ensure that the Authority has sufficient resources to fully complete its tasks, both those provided for by the existing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 and the new ones envisaged by the present recast proposal. This requires stable staffing and strengthening of the human resources currently provided to the Authority."

In light of the above, the Authority estimates that the level of staffing in 2027 that will allow for effective operations with the increased number of European political parties and foundations, while implementing Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2025/2445, would be as follows:

Additional tasks	Additional tasks based on strengthened values-compliance mechanisms, enhanced safeguards against foreign interference, reinforced transparency requirements, extended financial supervision duties, controls on newly established categories of joint political activities, additional tasks arising under the Artificial Intelligence Act coordination with Member States and EP Authorising Officer,
Resulting additional AD posts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two temporary AD posts related to enhanced compliance controls and court proceedings, • Two temporary AD posts related to additional structural requirements and interinstitutional cooperation.
Resulting additional AST posts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three temporary AST posts related to assisting in open data publication processes and verification cycles. • One temporary AST post to reinforce compliance controls following the increased number of registered entities subject to the Authority's controls
<i>Total additional staff members requested</i>	8