

THE COURT'S STATEMENT OF ASSURANCE PROVIDED TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL — INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Opinion

- I. We have audited:
- (a) the consolidated accounts of the European Union, which comprise the consolidated financial statements ⁽¹⁾ and the budgetary implementation reports ⁽²⁾ for the financial year ended 31 December 2017, approved by the Commission on 27 June 2018, and
 - (b) the legality and regularity of the transactions underlying those accounts, as required by Article 287 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU).

Reliability of the accounts

Opinion on the reliability of the accounts

II. In our opinion, the consolidated accounts of the European Union (EU) for the year ended 31 December 2017 present fairly, in all material respects, the EU's financial position as at 31 December 2017, the results of its operations, its cash flows and the changes in its net assets for the year then ended, in accordance with the Financial Regulation and with accounting rules based on internationally accepted accounting standards for the public sector.

Legality and regularity of the transactions underlying the accounts

Revenue

Opinion on the legality and regularity of revenue underlying the accounts

III. In our opinion, the revenue underlying the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2017 is legal and regular in all material respects.

Payments

Qualified opinion on the legality and regularity of payments underlying the accounts

IV. In our opinion, except for the effects of the matter described in the 'Basis for qualified opinion on the legality and regularity of payments underlying the accounts' paragraph, the payments underlying the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2017 are legal and regular in all material respects.

⁽¹⁾ The consolidated financial statements comprise the balance sheet, the statement of financial performance, the cash flow statement the statement of changes in net assets, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes (including segment reporting).

⁽²⁾ The budgetary implementation reports also comprise explanatory notes.