



# ANNUAL REPORT 2023 ON CLOSED FRAUD AND OTHER IRREGULARITY CASES IN THE EEA AND NORWAY GRANTS (FINANCIAL MECHANISM 2014-21)

Prepared by the Financial Mechanism Office

www.eeagrants.org

EEA and Norway Grants Financial Mechanism Office EFTA House, Avenue des Arts 19H 1000 Brussels, Belgium

Exe	cutive Summary	4
1.	Introduction: policy and practice	6
2.	2023 annual overview	9
3.	Fraud cases	11
4.	Other irregularity cases	11
5.	Cumulative overview 2020 - 2023	12
6.	Conclusion	14
7.	Annexes	14

## Figures

Figure 1 Grants allocation per Beneficiary State for the 2014-2021 funding period	. 5
Figure 2 Grants organisational overview	. 6

## Tables

Table 1 Total amount of closed fraud and other irregularity cases	9
Table 2 Number of fraud and other irregularity cases closed in 2023 and financial correction by Benefic	ciary
States and directly funded programmes	10
Table 3 Total amount of closed fraud cases	11
Table 4 Distribution of other closed irregularity cases by category	11
Table 5 Total cumulative amount of closed fraud and other irregularities	12
Table 6 Cumulative overview of opened and closed cases of fraud and other irregularities by	
country/programme	13

### **Executive Summary**

This 2023 Annual report concerns data on closed fraud and other irregularity cases affecting the EEA<sup>1</sup> and Norway Grants. This is the fourth Annual Report of the EEA and Norway Grants funding period 2014-2021. The Annual Reports for <u>2020</u>, <u>2021</u> and <u>2022</u> can be found on the EEA and Norway Grants website.

The EEA and Norway Grants represent the public financial contribution of Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway (the Donors) made available to 15 Beneficiary States in Europe through grant funding. The total funding for the current programming period  $2014-2021^2$  is  $\leq 2.8$  billion. The Grants have two objectives – to contribute to a more equal Europe, both socially and economically – and to strengthen the relations between the Donors and the 15 Beneficiary States. The Donors continuously ensure that taxpayers' money is protected by requiring the reimbursement of all wrongfully spent money.

With large volumes of grant-making and numerous organisations involved, the Grants carry an inherent risk of irregularities and fraud. The Donors have a zero-tolerance policy towards corruption, fraud and any other misuse of funds, in order to ensure the protection of the financial contributions and the integrity of the mechanism, and, thus, to protect the very objectives of the Grants.

While ultimate responsibility for the management of the EEA and Norway Grants rests with the Donors, the Beneficiary States' authorities have the first line of responsibility to prevent the occurrence of fraud, to detect it, to report it to the Donors and to correct it.

The zero-tolerance principle is rooted in the EEA and Norway Grants' <u>risk management strategy</u>. This strategy ensures that the management of risks including monitoring and control mechanisms as well as risk handling are an integral part of the work of the public institutions in the Donors and Beneficiary States. The strategy applies directly to the Donors and their Brussels based Secretariat – the Financial Mechanism Office (FMO) while it also relies on risk assessment and mitigation by the Beneficiary States' institutions. Risk management is on the agenda of the annual meeting between the Donors and each Beneficiary State and a constant dialogue with the relevant entities in the Beneficiary States to identify good risk mitigation is in place.

The EEA and Norway Grants' legal framework, risk management strategy and related mechanisms have thus far experienced positive results. As of 2023, as shown in table 5, financial corrections in closed cases of fraud represent €94,351 or 0.00% out of the total grant allocation of 2.8 billion. Other irregularities amounted to €956,031 (0.03% of the total grant allocation). The Donors are dedicated to ongoing efforts to execute the strategy in the best manner.

The Grants operate under a <u>legal framework</u>, including notably the EEA and Norway Grants 2014-2021 <u>Regulations</u> which provide the definitions to be used for the purpose of this report.

"Irregularity" is defined in the EEA and Norway Grants Regulations, as an infringement of:

- The legal framework of the EEA and Norway Grants 2014-2021,
- any provision of European Union law, or
- any provision of the national law of the Beneficiary State,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> European Economic Area

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> With a final date of eligibility set to 30 April 2024

which affects or prejudices any stage of the implementation of the Grants in the Beneficiary State, in particular, but not limited to, the implementation and/or the budget of any programme, project or other activities financed by the Grants.

This entails that the nature of the irregularities varies significantly. They can take the form of conflict of interest, deviation from programme agreement, deviation from project contract, deviation from public procurement procedures or error in payment claims.

Fraud is, however, an irregularity entailing an intentional deception for the purpose of making an unjust gain.

The Beneficiary States and the Donors can apply financial corrections to remedy an actual irregularity case, in addition to the remedies already applied by the Beneficiary States or in the absence thereof. Financial corrections consist in cancelling all or part of the financial contribution of the Grants.

This report presents statistics on closed cases. A closed case is a case where all checks are completed, and appropriate remedies have been applied.<sup>3</sup>

Further information about the EEA and Norway Grants 2014-2021, the legal framework and available funding can be found on <u>eeagrants.org</u>.

#### Figure 1 Grants allocation per Beneficiary State for the 2014-2021 funding period



Country	EEA Grants	Norway Grants	Total
Bulgaria	115.0	95.1	201.1
Croatia	56.8	46.6	103.4
Cyprus	6.4	5.1	11.5
Czech Republic	95.5	89.0	184.5
Estonia	32.3	35.7	68.0
Greece	116.7	-	116.7
Hungary	108.9	105.7	214.7
Latvia	50.2	51.9	102.1
Lithuania	56.2	61.4	117.6
Malta	4.4	3.6	8.0
Poland	397.8	411.5	809.3
Portugal	102.7	_	102.7
Romania	275.2	227.3	502.5
Slovakia	54.9	58.2	113.1
Slovenia	19.9	17.8	37.7
Funds <sup>2</sup>	55.2	44.8	100.0
Total	1 548.1*	1 253.7	2 801.8

All figures are in million €.

2. Fund for Youth Employment and Fund for Regional Cooperation.

\* The EEA Grants are jointly financed by all three Donor States, where contributions are based on their GDP.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Cases reported in error are not included in this report.

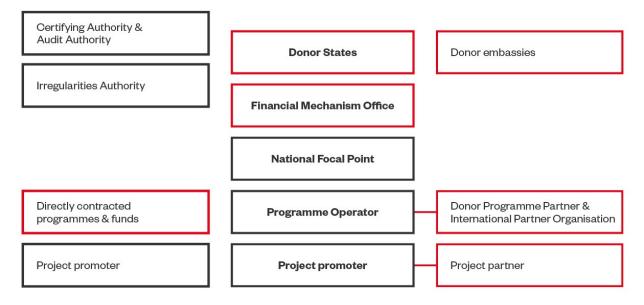
### 1. Introduction: policy and practice

The Beneficiary States manage the greatest share of the Grants. Most programmes are managed by Programme Operators in the Beneficiary States. However, the Financial Mechanism Office (FMO), also operates some programmes. In such cases the implementation of the programme is normally performed by a Fund Operator.

#### 1.1. The roles of the respective actors of the Grants in the fight against fraud

As shown in Figure 3, the EEA and Norway Grants structure is designed in a way that all actors in the management of the Grants contribute to the fight against fraud.

#### Figure 2 Grants organisational overview



#### The roles of the respective actors in the Beneficiary States

The Beneficiary States and their national authorities have the primary responsibility for control and monitoring.

**The National Focal Point** has the overall responsibility for the implementation of the EEA and Norway Grants. It reimburses the Donors in cases of corruption, fraud or other irregularities in the Beneficiary State which have not been corrected. It establishes reporting and monitoring procedures for irregularities including for the reporting of serious irregularities to the police and establishes an alert system for suspected corruption.

In addition to the **National Focal Point**, the Beneficiary States designate a **Certifying Authority**, which is charged with submitting financial reports to the Donors; an **Audit Authority**, which carries out audits to ensure the effective functioning of the management and control systems designed by the Beneficiary States; and an **Irregularity Authority** responsible for the reporting of fraud and other irregularity cases to the Donors.

**The Programme Operators** are responsible for preparing and implementing their respective programmes. They take all necessary and appropriate measures to prevent, detect and rectify fraud and other irregularities.

**The Fund Operators** are responsible for developing and implementing programmes that are directly funded and under the responsibility of the FMO. They must make every effort possible to prevent, detect, and nullify the effect of any cases of irregularities. Additionally, the Fund Operators shall investigate any suspected and actual cases of irregularities promptly and efficiently, including making any financial corrections that may be appropriate.

**The Project Promoters** initiate, prepare and implement projects. They must respect applicable legislation in the implementation of the projects and inform the national authorities of any suspected or actual cases of fraud and other irregularities.

#### The role of the Donor States

The Donor States develop and adopt regulations and the governance structure of the Grants, conduct and follow up risk assessments and take corrective measures (including requiring the reimbursement of funds) towards Beneficiary State entities in case of fraud and other irregularities. They conduct annual meetings with all Beneficiary States and carry out on-site inspections of projects.

# <u>The role of the Financial Mechanism Office (FMO) – the Brussels-based secretariat of the Grants</u>

The FMO serves as a contact point between the Donor and Beneficiary States. The Donors have delegated technical implementation and daily management of the Grants to the FMO. The FMO's responsibilities related to management and control as pertaining to fraud and irregularities, include:

- Monitoring that the implementation of the EEA and Norway Grants is in line with the legal framework
- Reviewing reports from Beneficiary States such as irregularity reports, audit reports, the strategic report, annual programme reports, interim financial reports and the final programme report
- Conducting audits (including on the management and control system of the Beneficiary State), monitoring and on-the-spot verification of projects
- Managing external evaluations of ongoing or completed EEA & Norway Grants programmes, funds, themes, strategies, policies, or processes, and of their design, implementation and results
- Receiving and following up complaints and alerts on suspicions of fraud or other irregularities
- Reviewing all fraud and irregularity cases reported by the Irregularity Authority: Requiring a clear description of each irregularity, accuracy of amounts affected and the level of financial corrections applied at national level with regard to applicable guidance
- Ensuring that irregularities are followed up at national level before closing the irregularity
- Updating and publishing fraud and other irregularities reports annually
- Providing training, workshops and entering into dialogue on fraud and other irregularities with all concerned actors in the Beneficiary States.

#### 1.2. Mechanisms to detect fraud and irregularities

The main ways by which the different actors of the Grants discover cases of suspected or actual fraud and irregularities are:

- Audits, monitoring and verification visits and on the spot checks of funded projects
- Notifications by project promoters and project partners
- Checks of payment claims, financial reports and activity progress reports
- Media and information provided by the general public
- Complaints and alert mechanisms

#### 1.3. Mechanisms to correct fraud and irregularities

If any resources are unduly paid or lost due to fraud or any other irregularities, the Beneficiary State is responsible for reclaiming them from the Programme Operator or project promoter, depending on who committed the irregularity.

In addition to this or failing the action of the Beneficiary State, the Donors can apply financial corrections. The aim of a financial correction is to restore a situation where all expenditure financed is in line with the applicable rules. The amount unduly spent must thus be identified.

The amount of financial correction for a project level irregularity may be reused under the programme for projects that were not subject of the financial correction in question. The project grant amount is thus reduced in case of financial corrections.

When the irregularity relates to the fund for bilateral relations, technical assistance or programme management costs, the amount of financial correction may be reused for costs that were not subject to the correction. However, when a financial correction is made for systemic irregularities, or irregularities relating to the management or control systems within a programme, the financial contribution may not be reused for that programme. This means that the programme grant amount is reduced.

### 2. 2023 annual overview

	Oth	er irregularities		Fraud			
	Number of casesAmounts%*		Number of cases	Amounts	%*		
EEA funded programmes	15	€ 207,419	0.02%	0	€ 0	0.00%	
Norway funded programmes	6	€ 1,267	0.00%	0	€ 0	0.00%	
Jointly funded programmes	22	€ 42,142	0.00%	0	€ 0	0.00%	
Total	43	€ 250,829	0.01%	0	€ 0	0.00%	

Table 1 Total amount of closed fraud and other irregularity cases

\*The percentage % represents the value of annual cases out of the total grant allocation

During 2023, there were no cases closed involving fraud within the Grants while 43 cases of other irregularities were closed. A breakdown of categories of other irregularities closed in 2023 is presented in table 4.

A breakdown of closed cases in 2023 by Beneficiary States and directly funded programmes is also shown in table 2 below.

	FRA	VUD	OTI IRREGUI	HER _ARITIES	тот	ΓAL
Country/programme	Number	Amounts	Number	Amounts	Number	Amounts
Bulgaria	0	€0	1	€ 2,062	1	€ 2,062
Croatia	0	€0	0	€0	0	€0
Cyprus	0	€0	1	€ 234	1	€ 234
Czech Republic	0	€0	0	€0	0	€0
Estonia	0	€0	4	€ 840	4	€ 840
Greece	0	€0	0	€0	0	€0
Hungary	0	€0	0	€0	0	€0
Latvia	0	€0	0	€0	0	€0
Lithuania	0	€0	2	€ 157	2	€ 157
Malta	0	€0	0	€0	0	€0
Poland	0	€0	10	€ 205,158	10	€ 205,158
Portugal	0	€0	1	€ 3,158	1	€ 3,158
Romania	0	€0	12	€ 16,923	12	€ 16,923
Slovakia	0	€0	3	€ 11,681	3	€ 11,681
Slovenia	0	€0	0	€0	0	€0
Active Citizens Fund⁴	0	€0	9	€ 10,616	9	€ 10,616
Regional Fund RF-YOUTH⁵	0	€0	0	€0	0	€ 0
Regional Fund RF- COOPERATION <sup>6</sup>	0	€0	0	€0	0	€0
Social Dialogue – Decent Work <sup>7</sup>	0	€0	0	€0	0	€0
Total	0	€ 0	43	€ 250,829	43	€ 250,829

 Table 2 Number of fraud and other irregularity cases closed in 2023 and financial correction by Beneficiary States and directly funded programmes

There are differences in the number of irregularity cases reported by each Beneficiary State. This depends to a great extent on the implementation stage of the various programmes, but also on the efficiency of the management and control systems in place. There is not always a direct correlation between the number of cases reported and the actual presence of fraud or other irregularities in a Beneficiary State. It may be that some Beneficiary States report more than others because they have stronger control systems in place.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Active Citizens Fund includes 16 programmes Civil Society | EEA Grants

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Fund for Youth Employment <u>Fund for Youth Employment | EEA Grants</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Fund for Regional Cooperation Fund for Regional Cooperation | EEA Grants

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Social Dialogue – Decent Work <u>Social Dialogue - Decent Work | EEA Grants</u>

### 3. Fraud cases

Table 3 Total amount of closed fraud cases

Fraud							
	Number of cases	Amounts	%*				
EEA funded programmes	0	€0	0.00%				
Norway funded programmes	0	€0	0.00%				
Jointly funded programmes	0	€0	0.00%				
Total	0	€ 0	0.00%				

\*The percentage % represents the value of annual cases out of the total grant allocation

During 2023, no cases of fraud were closed.

### 4. Other irregularity cases

Table 4 Distribution of other closed irregularity cases by category

Categories of other irregularities	Number of cases	Amounts
Conflict of interest	2	€ 3,058
Deviation from programme agreement	4	€ 655
Deviation from project contract	14	€ 33,254
Deviation from public procurement rules/principles	19	€ 203,936
Error in financial report	4	€ 9,925
Total	43	€ 250,829

During 2023, 43 cases of other irregularities have been closed. The split between the different categories of other irregularities is shown in table 4 above and further information on each case is found in Annex 2 to the present report.

### 5. Cumulative overview 2020 - 2023

		Other irregularitie	es	Fraud			
	Number of cases	Amounts	%*	Number of cases	Amounts	%*	
EEA funded programmes	54	€ 640,358	0.06%	2	€ 94,351	0.01%	
Norway funded programmes	28	€ 34,381	0.00%	0	€0	0.00%	
Jointly funded programmes	73	€ 281,292	0.03%	1	€0	0.00%	
Total	155	€ 956,031	0.03%	3	€ 94,351	0.00%	

Table 5 Total cumulative amount of closed fraud and other irregularities

\*The percentage % represents the value of cumulative cases out of the total grant allocation

A total of 3 cases of fraud and 155 cases of other irregularities have been closed from 2020 up until 2023, out of the total number of 292 irregularities reported up until 2023 across all 15 Beneficiary States for the 2014-2021 funding period.

At the end of 2023, 108 cases remained open. A breakdown of open cases by Beneficiary State and directly funded programmes is shown in table 6 below.

Table 6 Cumulative overview of opened and closed cases of fraud and other irregularities by country/programme

Country / Programme	Tot.	t. 2020		20	2021		2022		2023	
riogramme		Opened	Closed	Opened	Closed	Opened	Closed	Opened	Closed	on 31.12.23
Bulgaria	22	9	0	3	11	4	1	6	1	9
Croatia	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	6
Cyprus	2	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0
Czech Republic	43	7	4	5	8	9	8	22	0	23
Estonia	29	3	1	7	4	7	5	12	4	15
Greece	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
Hungary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Latvia	16	0	0	5	4	6	7	5	0	5
Lithuania	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	2	3
Malta	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Poland	31	5	0	4	2	7	11	15	10	8
Portugal	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1
Romania	33	5	1	9	1	12	13	7	12	6
Slovakia	13	0	0	0	0	6	3	7	3	7
Slovenia	2	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0
Active Citizens Fund	53	6	1	8	6	24	15	15	9	22
Regional Fund RF- YOUTH	5	3	2	0	0	0	1	2	0	2
Regional Fund RF- COOPERATI ON	2	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0
Social Dialogue – Decent Work	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	266	41	9	45	40	76	66	105	43	108

During 2023, a total of 105 cases were opened. The corresponding number was 76 for 2022, 45 for 2021 and 41 for 2020. The increase in the number of opened cases can be explained by the increased progression of programmes and projects from planning to implementation, leading to more activity and an inherently increased risk of irregularities.

Irregularity cases are often reported to the FMO early in the process of establishing the facts and before potential legal consequences are established. Some irregularity cases will therefore remain open for a longer period. As such, a number of the cases opened in 2023 remain open, and correspondingly a number of cases closed in 2023 were reported to the FMO in 2022, 2021 or 2020.

### 6. Conclusion

#### Publicity and deterrence

Ensuring openness and transparency is essential for the implementation of the Grants and to keep the public informed on the achievements of the funding. The overview of all closed fraud and other irregularity cases (reported by the Beneficiary States or detected by the FMO during the exercise of its control functions) included in the present report is part of the efforts to prevent fraud in the financial mechanisms.

The Donors publish annual reports on closed fraud and other irregularity cases on the EEA and Norway Grants website.

#### Reporting on suspected fraud or other irregularities

For each project financed by the Grants, the principles of good governance, transparency, equality, accountability, efficiency and zero tolerance towards corruption shall be applied.

In the application of the zero-tolerance policy towards corruption under the EEA and Norway Grants, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway strongly encourage all suspected mismanagement of the funding to be reported. All suspected fraud and other irregularities can be submitted directly to any of the agencies responsible for the management of the Grants or to the Financial Mechanism Office.

See the section on how to report fraud and other irregularities for more details.

### 7. Annexes

Annex 1: Summary of closed fraud cases in 2022

Annex 2: Summary of other closed irregularity cases in 2023

### Annex 1: Summary of all closed Fraud cases in 2022

During 2023, no fraud cases were closed.



### Annex: Summary of all other closed irregularities in 2023

### Definitions of other irregularities identified under the Grants

CONFLICT OF INTEREST	A conflict of interest situation is deemed to be present when a person involved in the selection process of the grants, or any other situation where decisions with an implication on the use of the grants, has direct or indirect interests that are or appear to be incompatible with the impartial and/or objective exercise of the functions related to the decision in question. Such interests may be related to economic interests, political or national affinities, family or emotional ties, other shared interests with the grant applicant or its partner, or any other interests liable to influence the impartial and objective performance of the person involved
DEVIATION FROM PROGRAMME AGREEMENT	For each programme financed by the Grants, a programme agreement is concluded between the Donors and the National Focal Point or, in the case of programmes operated by the FMO, the Fund Operator. Errors under this category are often of a formal or procedural rather than financial nature and may therefore often be remedied without any financial corrections. Deviation from the programme agreement could include inter alia non-compliance with agreed procedures for the selection, monitoring or follow-up of projects.
DEVIATION FROM PROJECT CONTRACT	For each project financed under a programme, a project contract is concluded between the Programme Operator or, in the case of programmes operated by the FMO, the Fund Operator and the project promoter. A deviation from the project contract refers to non-compliance with the contractual terms, for example as regards reporting, planned progress of the project, any specific conditions set out in the contract (environmental conditions, building permissions), etc.
DEVIATION FROM PUBLIC PROCUREMENT PROCEDURES	A deviation from public procurement procedures could imply the inadequate assessment of bids, absence of tendering or inappropriate use of tendering procedures. If a breach/deviation is detected, national authorities are required to apply financial corrections as appropriate, including flat rate corrections set as a percentage of the value of the contract in question.
ERROR IN FINANCIAL REPORTS	Errors affecting payment claims could include cases where there are for example mistakes in the calculation of depreciation to be charged to the project, mistakes in the use of the applicable exchange rate, inclusion of ineligible costs etc.

### 1.1 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Case ID number	Beneficiary State	Programme	Source of funding	Case opened	Case closed	Decision	Amount corrected
IR 87	Romania	RO-HEALTH	EEA Grants	26.11.2021	11.09.2023	The reported suspicion of irregularity was not confirmed.	€0
IR 248	Slovakia	SK-CULTURE	EEA & Norway Grants	22.08.2023		Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 3,058
Total							€ 3,058

#### 1.2 DEVIATION FROM PROGRAMME AGREEMENT

Case ID number	Beneficiary State	Programme	Source of funding	Case opened	Case closed	Decision	Amount corrected
IR 141	Estonia	EE- INNOVATION	Norway Grants	01.07.2022	04.07.2023	Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 273
IR 194	Lithuania	LT-JUSTICE	EEA & Norway Grants	22.02.2023	07.07.2023	Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 124
IR 182	Cyprus	CY-TA	EEA & Norway Grants	28.12.2022	17.08.2023	Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 234
IR 216	Romania	RO-JUSTICE	Norway Grants	24.05.2023	11.09.2023	Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 24
Total		•		•	•		€ 655

### 1.3 DEVIATION FROM PROJECT CONTRACT

Case ID	Beneficiary	Programme	Source of	Case	Case	Decision	Amount
number	State		funding	opened	closed		corrected
IR 172	Poland	PL-Applied Research	EEA & Norway Grants	25.11.2022	27.06.2023	Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 4,175
IR 195	Lithuania	LT-BF	EEA & Norway Grants	22.02.2023	25.08.2023	Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 32
IR 106	Poland (Active Citizens Fund)	PL- ACTIVECITIZE NS-NATIONAL	EEA & Norway Grants	06.03.2022	11.09.2023	Irregularity remedied. No further action needed.	€0
IR 160	Poland (Active Citizens Fund)	PL- ACTIVECITIZE NS-NATIONAL	EEA & Norway Grants	24.09.2022	11.09.2023	Irregularity remedied. No further action needed.	€0
IR 202	Poland (Active Citizens Fund)	PL- ACTIVECITIZE NS-NATIONAL	EEA & Norway Grants	28.02.2023	11.09.2023	Irregularity remedied. No further action needed.	€0
IR 193	Romania	RO-CULTURE	EEA Grants	22.02.2023	12.12.2023	No action needed.	€0
IR 86	Romania	RO-HEALTH	EEA Grants	26.11.2021	19.12.2023	Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 15,929
IR 187	Poland	PL-Basic Research	EEA & Norway Grants	16.02.2023	19.12.2023	Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 3,411
IR 188	Poland	PL-Applied Research	EEA & Norway Grants	16.02.2023	19.12.2023	Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 5,858
IR 192	Romania	RO-CULTURE	EEA Grants	22.02.2023	19.12.2023	Irregularity remedied. No further action needed.	€0
IR 159	Poland (Active Citizens Fund)	PL- ACTIVECITIZE NS-NATIONAL	EEA & Norway Grants	24.09.2022	20.12.2023	Irregularity remedied. No further action needed.	€0

Case ID number	Beneficiary State	Programme	Source of funding	Case opened	Case closed	Decision	Amount corrected
IR 203	(Active	PL- ACTIVECITIZE NS-NATIONAL	EEA & Norway Grants	28.02.2023		Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 692
IR 176	Romania	RO-HEALTH	EEA Grants	29.11.2022		The reported suspicion of irregularity was not confirmed.	€0
IR 238	Portugal	PT- INNOVATION	EEA Grants	02.06.2023		Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 3,158
Total						•	€ 33,254

### 1.4 DEVIATION FROM PUBLIC PROCUREMENT PROCEDURES

Case ID number	Beneficiary State	Programme	Source of funding	Case opened	Case closed	Decision	Amount corrected
IR 57	Bulgaria	BG-TA	EEA & Norway Grants	11.05.2021	06.02.2023	Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 2,062
IR 163	Estonia	EE-RESEARCH	EEA Grants	01.11.2022	04.07.2023	Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 37
IR 164	Estonia	EE-RESEARCH	EEA Grants	01.11.2022	04.07.2023	Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 258
IR 183	Estonia	EE-CLIMATE	EEA Grants	14.02.2023	16.08.2023	Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 273
IR 174	Romania	RO-JUSTICE	Norway Grants	29.11.2022	11.09.2023	The reported suspicion of irregularity was not confirmed.	€0
IR 217	Romania	RO- HOMEAFFAIRS	Norway Grants	24.05.2023	11.09.2023	The reported suspicion of irregularity was not confirmed.	€0
IR 185	Poland	PL-BF	EEA & Norway Grants	16.02.2023	18.09.2023	Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 1,709
IR 186	Poland	PL-CULTURE	EEA Grants	16.02.2023	18.09.2023	Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 4,626
IR 71	Romania	RO-JUSTICE	Norway Grants	27.08.2021	07.12.2023	Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 418
IR 219	Romania	RO-JUSTICE	Norway Grants	24.05.2023	19.12.2023	Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 553
IR 227	Slovakia	SK-CULTURE	EEA & Norway Grants	30.05.2023	20.12.2023	Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 1,097

Case ID number	Beneficiary State	Programme	Source of funding	Case opened	Case closed	Decision	Amount corrected
IR 226	Slovakia	SK-CLIMATE	EEA & Norway Grants	30.05.2023	20.12.2023	Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 7,525
IR 249	Poland	PL-CULTURE	EEA Grants	24.08.2023	20.12.2023	Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 1,765
IR 255	Poland	PL-LOCALDEV	EEA & Norway Grants	24.08.2023	20.12.2023	Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 1,892
IR 256	Poland	PL-LOCALDEV	EEA & Norway Grants	24.08.2023	20.12.2023	Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 348
IR 127	Romania	RO-HEALTH	EEA Grants	27.05.2022	20.12.2023	Irregularity remedied. No further action needed.	€0
IR 128	Romania	RO-HEALTH	EEA Grants	27.05.2022	20.12.2023	Irregularity remedied. No further action needed.	€0
IR 152	Poland	PL-CULTURE	EEA Grants	30.08.2022	20.12.2023	Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 180,815
IR 215	Poland	PL-CULTURE	EEA Grants	18.05.2023	20.12.2023	Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 560
Total							€ 203,936

### 1.5 ERROR IN FINANCIAL REPORT

Case ID	Beneficiary State	Programme	Source of funding	Case opened	Case closed	Decision	Amount corrected
IR 156	Slovenia (Active Citizens Fund)	SI- ACTIVECITIZENS	EEA & Norway Grants	02.09.2022	27.06.2023	Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 4,400
IR 105	Poland (Active Citizens Fund)	PL- ACTIVECITIZENS- NATIONAL	EEA & Norway Grants	06.03.2022	16.08.2023	Irregularity remedied. No further action needed.	€ 0
IR 91	Poland (Active Citizens Fund)	PL- ACTIVECITIZENS- NATIONAL	EEA & Norway Grants	30.11.2021	25.08.2023	Irregularity remedied. No further action needed.	€ 0
IR 157	Slovenia (Active Citizens Fund)	SI- ACTIVECITIZENS	EEA & Norway Grants	02.09.2022	12.12.2023	Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 5,525
Total							€ 9,925