



ANNUAL REPORT 2024 ON CLOSED FRAUD AND OTHER IRREGULARITY CASES IN THE EEA AND NORWAY GRANTS (FINANCIAL MECHANISM 2014-21)

Prepared by the Financial Mechanism Office

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Executive Summary

This 2024 Annual report concerns data on closed fraud and other irregularity cases affecting the EEA¹ and Norway Grants. This is the fourth Annual Report of the EEA and Norway Grants funding period 2014-2021. The Annual Reports for 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023 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 2014-2021² is €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 2024, as shown in table 5, financial corrections in closed cases of fraud represent \in 303,717 or 0.01% out of the total grant allocation of 2.8 billion. Other irregularities amounted to \in 1,275,482 (0.05% 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,

¹ European Economic Area

² 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.³

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

The EEA and Norway Grants

The EEA and Norway Grants represent the contribution of Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway to strengthen economic and social cohesion in the European Economic Area. The current funding period totals €2.8 billion and builds on the successes of previous funding periods.

3 Donor States

2.8 billion in funding (2014-2021)

15 Beneficiary States

1.5B EEA Grants

2 Overall objectives

Reducing disparities and

strengthening cooperation

1.3B Norway Grants

Country Bulgaria 115.0 95.1 201.1 56.8 Croatia 46.6 103.4 Cyprus 6.4 5.1 11.5 Czech Republic 95.5 89.0 184.5 Estonia 32.3 35.7 68.0 116.7 Greece 116.7 105.7 Hungary 108.9 214.7 Latvia 50.2 51.9 102.1 Lithuania 56.2 117.6 61.4 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 100.0 55.2 44.8 1 548.1* 2 801.8 Total 1 253.7

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.

³ Cases reported in error are not included in this report.

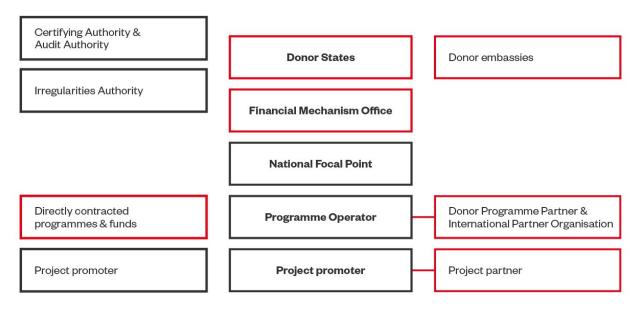
1. Introduction: policy and practice

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. 2024 annual overview

Table 1 Total amount of closed fraud and other irregularity cases

	Oth	er irregularities		Fraud				
	Number of cases	Amounts %*		Number of cases	Amounts	%*		
EEA funded programmes	16	€ 72,567	0.01%	0	€ 0	0.00%		
Norway funded programmes	18	€ 116,025	0.02%	0	€ 0	0.00%		
Jointly funded programmes	20	€ 131,600	0.01%	4	€ 209,366	0.02%		
Total	54	€ 320,192	0.01%	4	€ 209,366	0.01%		

^{*}The percentage % represents the value of annual cases out of the total grant allocation

During 2024, four cases were closed involving fraud within the Grants while 54 cases of other irregularities were closed. A breakdown of categories of other irregularities closed in 2024 is presented in table 4.

A breakdown of closed cases in 2024 by Beneficiary States and directly funded programmes is also shown in table 2 below.

Figure 3: Proportion of closed fraud and other irregularity cases

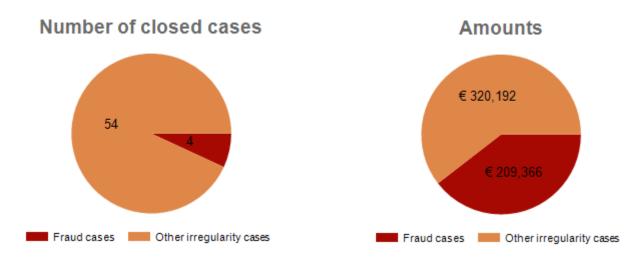


Table 2 Number of fraud and other irregularity cases closed in 2024 and financial correction by Beneficiary States and directly funded programmes

	FRAUD		OTI IRREGUL		TOTAL		
Country/programme	Number	Amounts	Number	Amounts	Number	Amounts	
Bulgaria	0	€ 0	2	€ 2,840	2	€ 2,840	
Croatia	0	€ 0	0	€ 0	0	€ 0	
Cyprus	0	€ 0	0	€ 0	0	€ 0	
Czech Republic	0	€ 0	13	€ 28,686	13	€ 28,686	
Estonia	0	€ 0	7	€ 117,666	7	€ 117,666	
Greece	0	€ 0	0	€ 0	0	€ 0	
Hungary	0	€ 0	0	€ 0	0	€ 0	
Latvia	0	€ 0	7	€ 2,479	7	€ 2,479	
Lithuania	0	€ 0	1	€ 11,451	1	€ 11,451	
Malta	0	€ 0	0	€ 0	0	€ 0	
Poland	0	€ 0	9	€ 35,056	9	€ 35,056	
Portugal	0	€ 0	0	€ 0	0	€ 0	
Romania	0	€ 0	3	€ 11,636	3	€ 11,636	
Slovakia	0	€ 0	4	€ 70,062	4	€ 70,062	
Slovenia	0	€ 0	1	€ 5,862	1	€ 5,862	
Active Citizens Fund ⁴	4	€ 209,366	5	€ 34,456	9	€ 243,822	
Regional Fund RF-YOUTH⁵	0	€ 0	2	€0	2	€0	
Regional Fund RF- COOPERATION ⁶	0	€ 0	0	€0	0	€0	
Social Dialogue – Decent Work ⁷	0	€ 0	0	€ 0	0	€ 0	
Total	4	€ 209,366	54	€ 320,192	58	€ 529,558	

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.

⁴ Active Citizens Fund includes 16 programmes Civil Society | EEA Grants

⁵ Fund for Youth Employment Fund for Youth Employment | EEA Grants

⁶ Fund for Regional Cooperation <u>Fund for Regional Cooperation | EEA Grants</u>

⁷ 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	4	€ 209,366	0.02%							
Total	4	€ 209,366	0.01%							

^{*}The percentage % represents the value of annual cases out of the total grant allocation

During 2024, four cases of fraud were closed. The split between the different sources of funding is shown in table 3 above. Further information on the fraud cases is found in Annex 1 to the present report.

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	0	€ 0
Deviation from programme agreement	0	€0
Deviation from project contract	11	€ 83,921
Deviation from public procurement rules/principles	26	€ 217,829
Error in financial report	17	€ 18,442
Total	54	€ 320,192

During 2024, 54 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 - 2024

Table 5 Total cumulative amount of closed fraud and other irregularities

		Other irregularitie	es	Fraud			
	Number of cases	Amounts	%*	Number of cases	Amounts	%*	
EEA funded programmes	70	€ 712,924	0.06%	2	€ 94,351	0.01%	
Norway funded programmes	45	€ 149,665	0.02%	0	€ 0	0.00%	
Jointly funded programmes	93	€ 412,893	0.04%	5	€ 209,366	0.02%	
Total	208	€ 1,275,482	0.05%	7	€ 303,717	0.01%	

^{*}The percentage % represents the value of cumulative cases out of the total grant allocation

A total of seven cases of fraud and 208 cases of other irregularities have been closed from 2020 up until 2024, out of the total number of 368 irregularities reported up until 2024 across all 15 Beneficiary States for the 2014-2021 funding period.

At the end of 2024, 153 cases remained open. A breakdown of open cases by Beneficiary State and directly funded programmes is shown in table 6 below.

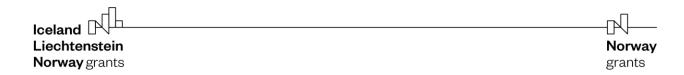


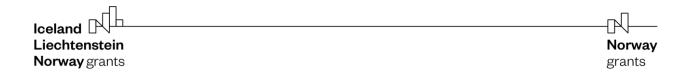
Table 6 Cumulative overview of opened and closed cases of fraud and other irregularities by country/programme

Country / Programme	Tot.	20	20	20	21	20	22	20	23	20	24	Open cases on 31.12.24
		Opened	Closed	011 011.12.24								
Bulgaria	37	9	0	3	11	4	1	6	1	15	2	22
Croatia	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	7	0	13
Cyprus	2	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
Czech Republic	59	7	4	5	8	9	8	22	0	16	13	26
Estonia	35	3	1	7	4	7	5	11	4	7	7	14
Greece	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1
Hungary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Latvia	22	0	0	5	4	6	7	2	0	9	7	4
Lithuania	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	2	3	1	4
Malta	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Poland	40	5	0	4	2	7	11	15	10	9	9	8
Portugal	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	1
Romania	38	5	1	8	1	12	12	7	12	6	3	9
Slovakia	31	0	0	0	0	6	3	6	3	19	4	21
Slovenia	5	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	3	1	2
Active Citizens Fund	66	6	1	8	6	24	15	13	9	15	9	25
Regional Fund RF-YOUTH	6	3	2	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	2	1
Regional Fund RF-COOPERATION	2	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Social Dialogue – Decent Work	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	368	40	9	44	40	76	65	97	43	111	58	153



During 2024, a total of 111 cases were opened. The corresponding number was 97 for 2023, 76 for 2022, 44 for 2021 and 40 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 2024 remain open, and correspondingly a number of cases closed in 2024 were reported to the FMO in 2023, 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 2024

Annex 2: Summary of other closed irregularity cases in 2024

Annex 1: Summary of all closed Fraud cases in 2024

During 2024, four fraud cases were closed.

Case ID number	Beneficiary state	Programme	Source of funding	Case opened	Case closed	Decision	Amount corrected
IR 166	Poland (Active Citizens Fund)	PL- ACTIVECITIZENS- NATIONAL		02.11.2022	08.03.2024	Project cancelled. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 75,000
IR 167	Poland (Active Citizens Fund)	PL- ACTIVECITIZENS- NATIONAL		02.11.2022	08.03.2024	Project cancelled. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 30,000
IR 168	Poland (Active Citizens Fund)	PL- ACTIVECITIZENS- NATIONAL		02.11.2022	08.03.2024	Project cancelled. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 30,000
IR 169	Poland (Active Citizens Fund)	PL- ACTIVECITIZENS- NATIONAL	EEA & Norway Grants	02.11.2022	08.03.2024	Project cancelled. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 74,366
Total	1	1	ı		ı		€ 209,366

Further details on the above cases

<u>IR 166, 167, 168 and 169:</u> The project promoters of four separate projects were found to be subcontracting elements of their project implementation to each other, despite no obvious expertise in the subjects of the contracts. There was also significant doubt that events and activities were actually taking place as reported. A monitoring was performed, and the Project Promoters admitted to the attempted fraud and returned the funds to the Fund Operator. All funds were recovered.



Annex: Summary of all other closed irregularities in 2024

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

No cases of this nature closed in 2024.

1.2 DEVIATION FROM PROGRAMME AGREEMENT

No cases of this nature closed in 2024

1.3 DEVIATION FROM PROJECT CONTRACT

Case ID number	Beneficiary State	Programme	Source of funding	Case opened	Case closed	Decision	Amount corrected
IR 201	Poland (Active Citizens Fund)	PL- ACTIVECITIZE NS-NATIONAL	EEA & Norway Grants	28.02.2023	17.05.2024	Irregularity remedied. No further action needed.	€ 0
IR 305	Poland	PL-LOCALDEV	EEA & Norway Grants	22.02.2024	02.07.2024	Irregularity remedied. No further action needed. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 82
IR 284	Czech Republic	CZ-RESEARCH	EEA & Norway Grants	30.11.2023	05.09.2024	Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 7,035
IR 269	Estonia	EE- INNOVATION	Norway Grants	09.11.2023	16.09.2024	Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 24,712
IR 283	Czech Republic	CZ-RESEARCH	EEA & Norway Grants	30.11.2023	16.09.2024	Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 5,043
IR 348	Regional Fund	RF-YOUTH	EEA & Norway Grants	31.05.2024	01.10.2024	Irregularity remedied. No further action needed.	€0
IR 243	Lithuania	LT-HEALTH	EEA Grants	04.08.2023	03.10.2024	Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 11,451
IR 306	Poland	PL-LOCALDEV	EEA & Norway Grants	22.02.2024	03.10.2024	Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 3,864
IR 290	Poland (Active Citizens Fund)	PL- ACTIVECITIZE NS-NATIONAL	EEA & Norway Grants	30.11.2023	08.10.2024	The reported suspicion of irregularity was not confirmed.	€ 0

Case ID number	Beneficiary State	Programme	Source of funding	Case opened	Case closed	Decision	Amount corrected
IR 266	(Active		EEA & Norway Grants	31.08.2023		Project cancelled. Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 2,597
IR 181	(Active	PL- ACTIVECITIZE NS-REGIONAL	EEA & Norway Grants	01.12.2022		Project cancelled. Entire project grant withdrawn. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 29,138
Total							€ 83,921

1.4 DEVIATION FROM PUBLIC PROCUREMENT PROCEDURES

Case ID	Beneficiary State	Programme	Source of funding	Case opened	Case closed	Decision	Amount corrected
IR 116	Slovakia	SK-CULTURE	EEA & Norway Grants	24.05.2022	08.03.2024	Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 52,104
IR 180	Bulgaria	BG-CULTURE	EEA Grants	30.11.2022	11.04.2024	Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 1,797
IR 220	Bulgaria	BG-LOCALDEV	EEA Grants	30.05.2023	11.04.2024	Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 1,043
IR 97	Romania	RO-BF	EEA & Norway Grants	28.02.2022	17.05.2024	Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 2,293
IR 173	Czech Republic	CZ- HUMANRIGHTS	Norway Grants	28.11.2022	26.05.2024	Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 5,552
IR 210	Estonia	EE- INNOVATION	Norway Grants	03.05.2023	27.05.2024	Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 2,895
IR 211	Estonia	EE- INNOVATION	Norway Grants	03.05.2023	27.05.2024	Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 5,082
IR 225	Slovakia	SK-LOCALDEV	Norway Grants	30.05.2023	28.05.2024	Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 4,871
IR 279	Latvia	LV-LOCALDEV	EEA Grants	24.11.2023	28.05.2024	Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 457
IR 295	Latvia	LV-CLIMATE	Norway Grants	13.02.2024	28.05.2024	Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 576

Case ID number	Beneficiary State	Programme	Source of funding	Case opened	Case closed	Decision	Amount corrected
IR 300	Estonia	EE-CLIMATE	EEA Grants	20.02.2024	28.05.2024	Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 28,503
IR 302	Slovenia	SI-EDUCATION	EEA & Norway Grants	20.02.2024	28.05.2024	Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 5,862
IR 252	Poland	PL-CULTURE	EEA Grants	24.08.2023	11.06.2024	Irregularity remedied. No further action needed. Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 3,067
IR 277	Poland	PL- HOMEAFFAIRS	Norway Grants	21.11.2023	02.07.2024	Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 2,463
IR 271	Regional Fund	RF-YOUTH	EEA & Norway Grants	14.11.2023	22.08.2024	The reported suspicion of irregularity was not confirmed.	€ 0
IR 253	Poland	PL-CULTURE	EEA Grants	24.08.2023	02.09.2024	Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 1,519
IR 254	Poland	PL-CULTURE	EEA Grants	24.08.2023	02.09.2024	Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 15,979
IR 165	Estonia	EE- INNOVATION	Norway Grants	01.11.2022	06.09.2024	Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 31,128
IR 162	Estonia	EE- INNOVATION	Norway Grants	25.10.2022	16.09.2024	Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 22,126

Case ID number	Beneficiary State	Programme	Source of funding	Case opened	Case closed	Decision	Amount corrected
IR 250	Poland	PL-CULTURE	EEA Grants	24.08.2023	16.09.2024	Irregularity remedied. No further action needed. Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 715
IR 246	Slovakia	SK-CULTURE	EEA & Norway Grants	22.08.2023	03.10.2024	Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 5,285
IR 247	Slovakia	SK-CULTURE	EEA & Norway Grants	22.08.2023	03.10.2024	Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 7,802
IR 153	Poland	PL-CULTURE	EEA Grants	30.08.2022	03.10.2024	Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 2,803
IR 307	Poland	PL-LOCALDEV	EEA & Norway Grants	22.02.2024	03.10.2024	Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 4,565
IR 325	Romania	RO- HOMEAFFAIRS	Norway Grants	30.05.2024	08.10.2024	Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 3,709
IR 101	Romania	RO-RESEARCH	EEA & Norway Grants	28.02.2022	08.10.2024	Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 5,633
Total							€ 217,829

1.5 ERROR IN FINANCIAL REPORT

Case ID	Beneficiary State	Programme	Source of funding	Case opened	Case closed	Decision	Amount corrected
IR 230	Czech Republic	CZ- ENVIRONMENT	Norway Grants	31.05.2023	15.05.2024	Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 265
IR 231	Czech Republic	CZ- ENVIRONMENT	Norway Grants	31.05.2023	17.05.2024	Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 3,625
IR 232	Czech Republic	CZ-CULTURE	EEA Grants	31.05.2023	17.05.2024	Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 74
IR 233	Czech Republic	CZ-CULTURE	EEA Grants	31.05.2023	17.05.2024	Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 2,302
IR 261	Czech Republic	CZ- ENVIRONMENT	Norway Grants	31.08.2023	17.05.2024	Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 1
IR 265	Czech Republic	CZ-EDUCATION	EEA Grants	31.08.2023	17.05.2024	Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 0
IR 288	Czech Republic	CZ-HEALTH	EEA Grants	30.11.2023	17.05.2024	Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 12
IR 229	Czech Republic	CZ-JUSTICE	Norway Grants	31.05.2023	17.05.2024	Irregularity remedied. No further action needed.	€ 0
IR 260	Czech Republic	CZ- HOMEAFFAIRS	Norway Grants	31.08.2023	26.05.2024	Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 4,741
IR 228	Czech Republic	CZ-RESEARCH	EEA & Norway Grants	31.05.2023	27.05.2024	Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 35
IR 278	Latvia	LV-INNOVATION	Norway Grants	24.11.2023	28.05.2024	Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 986

Case ID	Beneficiary State	Programme	Source of funding	Case opened	Case closed	Decision	Amount corrected
IR 336	Latvia	LV-LOCALDEV	EEA Grants	30.05.2024	23.08.2024	Irregularity remedied. No further action needed. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 122
IR 333	Latvia	LV-RESEARCH	EEA & Norway Grants	30.05.2024	23.08.2024	Irregularity remedied. No further action needed. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 203
IR 334	Latvia	LV-RESEARCH	EEA & Norway Grants	30.05.2024	23.08.2024	Irregularity remedied. No further action needed. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 61
IR 335	Latvia	LV-CLIMATE	Norway Grants	30.05.2024	27.08.2024	Irregularity remedied. No further action needed. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 73
IR 328	Estonia	EE-INNOVATION	Norway Grants	30.05.2024	16.09.2024	Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 3,220
IR 149		PT- ACTIVECITIZENS	EEA Grants	30.08.2022	08.10.2024	Project grant amount reduced. Amount linked to irregularity paid back/deducted from payment.	€ 2,722
Total							€ 18,442