



Anti-Money Laundering: Commission decides to refer Austria, Belgium and the Netherlands to the Court of Justice of the EU for failing to fully implement EU anti-money laundering rules

Brussels, 2 July 2020

The European Commission has today referred Austria, Belgium and the Netherlands to the Court of Justice of the European Union, with a request for financial sanctions, for failing to fully implement the 4th Anti-Money Laundering Directive ([AML4](#)) into their national law.

Executive Vice-President Valdis **Dombrovskis** said: “*We have robust EU rules in place but they must be applied consistently and efficiently. We will make sure that everyone in both private and public sectors applies the rules rigorously. We have launched many infringement procedures to ensure the full transposition and application of our rules.*”

Following an assessment of the notified measures by these Member States, the Commission has concluded AML4 has not been fully transposed into national law. The incomplete transposition concerns fundamental aspects of the anti-money laundering framework, such as betting and gambling legislation (Austria), mechanisms under which the Financial Intelligence Units exchange documents and information (Belgium), and the information to be provided on the beneficial ownership of corporate and other legal entities (Netherlands).

Background

All Member States had to implement the rules of the AML4 by 26 June 2017. After this deadline passed, the Commission opened infringement proceedings against all Member States, as none of them had notified complete transposition of AML4.

There are open infringement procedures on incomplete transposition against eight Member States: three Member States have received Reasoned Opinions, proceedings against two Member States are pending before the Court, and today the Commission has decided to refer another three Member States to the Court.

IP/20/1228

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