

Day 3: Marco Lopriore, EIPA Expert

- CPR/ESF+ 2021-2027 provisions
- Eligibility rules & evidence
- Double funding & conflict of interest



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New rules 2021-2027

- Non-fraudulent bankruptcy
 - Art 65 CPR: durability of operations rules do not apply
 - Exemption from reporting irregularities <u>except for those</u> preceding bankruptcy
- Art 69 CPR and Annex XVII: Personal data on beneficial owners (UBO register)
 - Ex: <u>https://finance.belgium.be/en/E-services/register-beneficial-owners</u>
- Management declaration Annex XVIII
- Art 16 ESF+ Reg for Direct Staff Costs

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Eligibility and evidence

- Buying second-hand equipment
- SME definition
- Disposing of assets after the project
- Allowing cash payments & thresholds
- COVID-19 related expenditures & procurement
- Alternative evidence: originals/scanned copies of invoices, enrollment forms, e-v.« wet » signatures







Risk areas for ESF immaterial operations

- In-kind contributions of volunteers
- Eligibility requirements (age/residence)
- False registrations of trainees
- Subsidies for employment
- Scholarships/traineeships
- E-learning courses
- Monitoring by social partners/CSO

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Possible irregularities in SCO

- Real costs or SCO: which one is more risky?
- Flat rates (%): indirect costs/overheads landing in direct staff costs, inflating the base (DC/DSC)
- Methodologies for standard scales of unit costs:
 - perverse effects and <u>creaming</u> risks
 - substituting level of teachers
- <u>Lowering quality</u> of deliverables in lumpsums

Example 11

Falsified hotel invoice

Facts: A beneficiary submitted a hotel invoice to justify attendance at a meeting.

Red flag: The hotel belongs to a large group where all operations are computerised: clients' registration, invoicing, etc. The invoice was hand-written, had no number, did not indicate the currency and did not show any information related to the payment.

Reaction: The invoice was cross-checked with the hotel, which confirmed that it did not issue such invoices and that it did not know this client.

Outcome: The reimbursement was refused to the beneficiary. Taking into account the low amount at stake, no further action was carried out.



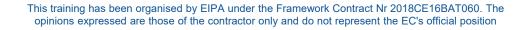






Double Funding Risk/No double financing rule

- Manager working in several projects: tot N. working hours declared should not exceed the tot eligible working time of the employee set in the related employment contract
- Tapping into various EU funds (which ones?), tapping into RRF and national funs (costs covered by other government grants received to deal with COVID 19 impact)
- Grants & loans, overlap between programming periods
- Payment claims: update the self-declarations of beneficiaries "I confirm..."





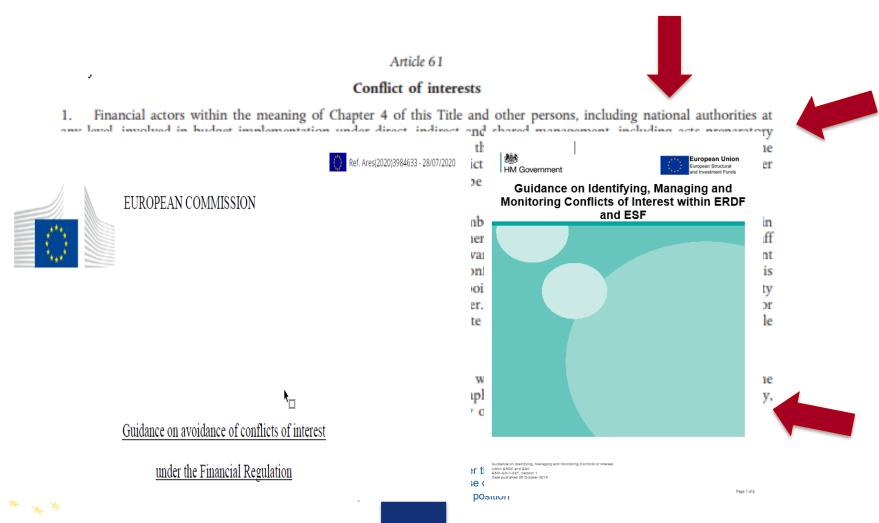
Time Accounting Systems (100% time)

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Employee: Lopriore, Marco Week: 2019 2 16 From: 7-1-2019 till 13-1-2019									
Week info	•								
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Book hours on		Days					Weekend		Week
Project	Type of Work	Mon (7-1)	Tue (8-1)	Wed (9-1)	Thu (10-1)	Fri (11-1)	Sat (12-1)	Sun (13-1)	Total
▶ 93 - Unit 3	03 Publications								
93 - Unit 3	04 Internal Coordination/meetings								
93 - Unit 3	06 Redesign of seminars								
93 - Unit 3	07 Development of new seminars								
93 - Unit 3	08 Acquisition								
93 - Unit 3	10 Maintaining and updating expertise								
93 - Unit 3	12 Networks/participating in conferences								
93 - Unit 3	13 Special functions: WC, RC, staff repre								
93 - Unit 3	14 Sick/Special/Normal Leave and Com								
93 - Unit 3	02 Administrative work								





Conflict of Interest - Financial Regulation 1046/2018 (Article 61)





Anti fraud resources

<u>https://ec.europa.eu/antifraud-knowledge-centre/index_en</u>

	European Commission English	Search
Anti-Fr	ud Knowledge Centre	
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	EU Funds Anti-Fraud Knowledge & Resource Centre	
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Do You Have Any Questions?

m.lopriore@eipa.eu



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