



## Identifying and preventing fraud and corruption in Structural and Cohesion Funds 2021-2027

### Venue

Online

### Organised

For DG REGIO by EIPA

### Dates

13, 14, 15, 16 March 2023

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# Online Programme

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**MONDAY 13 March 2023**

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- 14.00      **Access of participants to the Zoom online platform**
- 14.15      **Welcome and Introduction from European Commission DG REGIO**  
*Stefan Appel*, Head of Unit DG Regional and urban policy, European Commission
- 14.20      **Objectives and Methodology of the Seminar**  
*Marco Lopriore*, Expert, EIPA, Maastricht (NL)
- 14.25      **Introduction to identifying and preventing fraud; fraud indicators**  
*Dermot Byrne*, Head Audit Authority, Department of Public Expenditure and Reform, Ireland
- Architecture of the system
  - Rules and definitions of irregularities, (suspected) fraud and corruption
  - Information Note on Fraud Indicators for ERDF, ESF and CF COCOF 09/0003/00 – EN
  - Fraud triangle
- 15.00      **Fraud prevention and annual assurance process**  
*Dermot Byrne*
- Audits of systems and of operations (including sampling)
  - Irregularities and financial corrections
- 15.30      Virtual coffee break
- 15.45      **Protecting the financial interests of the EU. The role of AFCOS and EPPO**  
*Dr Andon Tashukov*, Case Analyst EPPO, Former Legal Advisor, AFCOS, Ministry of interior, Bulgaria
- EU policies to fight fraud
  - Role of AFCOS
  - Role of EPPO
- 16.30      **Break-out rooms on innovative methods to combat fraud**  
*Dr Andon Tashukov and Marco Lopriore*
- 17.00      **Cooperation with OLAF. Reporting of irregularities**  
*Dr Andon Tashukov*
- Cooperation between national authorities and OLAF
  - Reporting of irregularities/PACA
- 17.30      **Q&A session with DG REGIO Officials**  
Chaired by *Marco Lopriore*
- 17.45      End of the day

## TUESDAY 14 March 2023

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- 14.00      **Access of participants to the Zoom online platform**
- 14.10      **Review of Day 1**  
*Marco Lopriore*
- 14.15      **Models for assessing risk of fraud**  
*Dermot Byrne*
- Risk Assessment Tool
  - Recommended mitigating controls
  - Anti-Fraud Policy (tone at the top).
  - Guidance for Audit Authority verification work
- 15.00      **Case on digital forensics. National Anti-Fraud Strategies**  
*Dr Andon Tashukov*
- Digital forensics: resistance of an economic operator
  - National Antifraud strategies (NAFS);
  - Case Studies
- 15.30      **Break-out rooms on sources of information for investigations**  
*Dr Andon Tashukov and Marco Lopriore*
- 16.00      Virtual coffee break meeting room
- 16.15      **Role of Member States Auditors in Fraud prevention and detection: OLAF handbook**  
*Dermot Byrne*
- 16.45      ***Modus operandi* on investigations and cooperation with judicial authorities**  
*Dr Andon Tashukov*
- Modus operandi: administrative and criminal investigations
  - Cooperation with the Supreme Prosecutor's office, regional and district prosecutors, police
  - Case study of fraud
- 17.15      **Q&A session with Luc Molemans DG EMPL on ARACHNE**  
Chaired by *Marco Lopriore*
- 17.30      End of the day

## WEDNESDAY 15 March 2023

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- 14.00      **Access of participants to the Zoom online platform**
- 14.15      **Review of Day 2**  
*Marco Lopriore*
- 14.20      **Fraud Risk Management, processes and coverage**  
*Jo Kremers*, former senior audit manager Audit Authority, Central Audit Services, Lecturer for the National Academy for Finance and Economics of The Ministry of Finance, The Netherlands (NL)
- Multiple Choice Questions polling: A warming up session, to test and to refresh your knowledge
  - The Anti-Fraud Cycle (AFC) and the Management control Systems (MCS), special attention for Deterrence
  - The Fraud Risk Assessment (FRSA): the tool

- Break-out rooms on real live cases and plenary assessment
- 15.45 Virtual coffee break
- 16.00 **Improving frameworks against fraud & corruption**  
*Jo Kremers*
- The Frame for successful combating fraud and corruption in ESI Funds
  - The Fraud symbols, how to make use of these to give follow up to those symbols
  - Break out rooms on real live cases and plenary assessment
- 17.00 **Specific challenges in preventing fraud**  
*Marco Lopriore*
- Reviewing your eligibility rules, ESF Challenges, Simplified Cost Options
  - Double funding; Conflict of interest
- 17.30 End of the day

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#### THURSDAY 16 March 2023

- 14.00 **Access of participants to the Zoom online platform**
- 14.10 **Review of Day 3**  
*Marco Lopriore*
- 14.15 **Improving performance of detection**  
*Jo Kremers*
- Fraud Detection, a special for management verifications and audits
  - The most important anti-fraud instruments for verification, audit and investigation
  - Carrying out on the spot visits
  - Break-out rooms discussing cases and plenary assessment
- 15.45 Virtual Coffee break
- 16.00 **Key requirements and assessing MCS**  
*Jo Kremers*
- Innovation in KR2, KR4, KR15 and KR16 in general and in specific for combating fraud & corruption
  - Data analytics, very effective, behind desk by use of the most important instruments
  - Break-out rooms on real live cases (participants will need their laptops or tablets)
- 17.00 **Q&A session with OLAF**  
 Chaired by *Marco Lopriore*
- 17.30 **End of the online course**