

EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL  
REGIONAL AND URBAN POLICY

The Director-General

Brussels  
REGIO E1/IK

**Subject: Call for Expression of Interest for public authorities to participate in pilot project “Integrity Pacts - civil control mechanisms for safeguarding EU funds”**

Dear Sir/Madam,

By my letter Ares(2015)1522433 of 9 April 2015, I informed you about the launch of the pilot project “*Integrity Pacts - Civil Control Mechanisms for Safeguarding EU Funds*” funded by the Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy. This initiative seeks to pilot Integrity Pacts in several EU co-funded projects in Member States.

The general objective of the pilot initiative is to explore and promote the use of Integrity Pacts for safeguarding EU funds against fraud and corruption, and as a tool to increase transparency and accountability, enhance trust in authorities and government contracting, contribute to a good reputation of contracting authorities, bring cost savings and improve competition through better procurement.

The pilot project “*Integrity Pacts - Civil Control Mechanisms for Safeguarding EU Funds*” will be implemented in two phases. During Phase 1, running from January to September 2015, preparatory activities take place to secure participation of governments and civil society organisations in the implementation of Integrity Pacts for EU funds. A grant Agreement on the implementation of Phase 1 has been signed with Transparency International Secretariat.

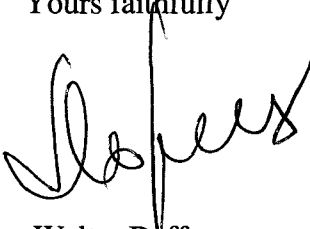
Phase 2, to begin after September 2015, is the actual implementation and monitoring of Integrity Pacts on a pilot basis in several Member States for public sector projects co-financed by the Structural Funds or Cohesion Fund. As this is a pilot initiative, we do not aim at implementing an Integrity Pact in each Member State. However, the Commission would like to identify and select a diverse set of EU Member States and projects (10-15 projects) willing to participate in this pilot, keeping in mind the geographical and sectorial spread. In this context, I would like to invite **managing authorities and contracting authorities to express their interest to participate in piloting Integrity Pacts** by filling in the attached form and return it by **25 June 2015**.

You will find the detailed explanations about the Call for Expression of Interest and the Application Form to be filled and more information about the Integrity Pact tool in the attachments to this letter.

I would like to emphasise that this initiative of piloting Integrity Pacts for EU co-funded projects is one in a series of new measures the Commission is taking to help Member States, regions and cities to manage EU investments effectively. Commissioner for Regional Policy Corina Crețu strongly supports this new initiative.

If you wish to obtain more information on the pilot project "*Integrity Pacts - Civil Control Mechanisms for Safeguarding EU Funds*" you may contact Mr Pascal Boijmans, Head of Unit of the Competence Centre for Administrative Capacity in DG REGIO ([Pascal.Boijmans@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Pascal.Boijmans@ec.europa.eu)) or Ms Inguna Kramiņa, policy officer in charge of this project ([Inguna.Kramina@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Inguna.Kramina@ec.europa.eu)).

Yours faithfully



Walter Deffaa

for the Director General absent,  
**Normunds Popenis**  
Deputy Director General

Enclosures:

- 1) Call for Expression of Interest for Public Authorities form – 9 pages;
- 2) Short information on Integrity Pacts – 4 pages.