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# Fraud and the European Union

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OLAF (European Anti-Fraud Office) investigates fraud against the EU budget, corruption and serious misconduct within the European institutions, and develops anti-fraud policy for the European Commission. Fraud is a deliberate act of trickery intended for personal gain or to cause a loss to another party, in this case it causes a loss to the European Union Budget. Along with its investigative work, OLAF plays

an active role in the development of the anti-fraud policies of the European Union.
Article 325 TFEU, actually, demands the Union and the Member States to counter fraud and any other illegal activities perturbing the financial interests of the European Union. Article 33 TFEU provides for intensification of customs cooperation between Member States and between the latter and the Commission, which is further detailed in Regulation 515/97 on mutual administrative support.
https://ec.europa.eu/anti-fraud/sites/antifraud/files/olaf_report_2017_en.pdf

Within this framework, the EU Anti-Fraud Programme will provide the beneficiaries with aid to enable them to better protect the financial interests of the EU and

to mutual administrative assistance in customs matters.
The Hercule Programmes fund actions which aim to prevent and combat fraud, corruption and other illegal activities touching the EU's financial interests. Actions eligible for funding comprise technical and operational investigation support, specialized trainings, research activities.
Hercule has been the only EU programme exclusively dedicated to supporting the fight against fraud affecting the financial interests of the European Union.. The Hercule evaluations have demonstrated that the support provided is unique in scope and contents.

Under the future multi-annual programming period, a new Union instrument for financial support for customs control equipment will be created to tackle the challenges in the field of customs controls by supporting the purchases of control equipment for the benefit of customs authorities. The new instrument will be complementary to the EU Anti-Fraud Programme.
The EU Anti-Fraud Programme will essentially roll over the existing Hercule Programme. The funding implementation mechanisms, payment modalities and control measures have proved efficient and proportionate. They will therefore be continued under the EU Anti-Fraud Programme, while taking advantage of the flexibility introduced by the Financial Regulation, to be adopted in 2018

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(e.g. the use of lump sums, flat rates and unit costs).
The financial circuit which will be applied is a partly decentralized model with counterweight from OLAF's Budget unit for all transactions except for the pre-financing payments where a centralized management mode will be followed.
The programme will be implemented via annual work programmes over the duration 2021-2027 to be launched in the first trimester of 2019
Three Calls for Proposals for actions funded under the Hercule III Programme 2019 will be published on the European Commission's E-grant management system (Participant Portal):1. Technical Assistance 2. Legal Training and Studies and 3. Training, Conference & Staff Exchange.

Bericht online lesen: https://moto-gp.en-a.de/politik/fraud_and_the_european_union-73530/

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