

Question for written answer E-004302/2025

to the Commission

Rule 144

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Subject: Follow-up on 2024 European Court of Auditors recommendations concerning the identification, mitigation and redress of human rights risks and violation in EU-funded projects

Last year, the European Court of Auditors published the Special Report 17/2024¹ where it asked the Commission to enhance the respect for the do-no-harm principle in decision-making on any future development action, by:

- Conducting systematic risk assessments in the design and formulation phase and translate the mitigating measures into specific activities or outputs indicators;
- Drawing up and circulating refined internal procedures for reporting and following up on human rights violations in the context of EU-funded projects;
- Analyse information related to human rights risks whether obtained through third-party monitoring or other means.

In its response² to the Court, the Commission accepted these recommendations and committed to implement them by the end of 2025.

1. What is the current status of the implementation of these recommendations, in particular the second one on the need to develop clarified internal procedures and how do these procedures complement existing monitoring tools like result-oriented monitoring evaluations and third-party monitoring?
2. Will these procedures include clear mitigating measures and suspension clauses when human rights violations in the context of EU-funded projects are found?
3. How will these cover allegations beyond the implementing partners, to include ‘partner of partners’, in line with Article 29(a) of Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument – Global Europe (NDICI) on excluded activities?

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¹ www.eca.europa.eu/en/publications?ref=SR-2024-17#:~:text=We%20found%20that%20the%20EUTF's,support%20on%20evidence%2Dbased%20information

² www.eca.europa.eu/Lists/ECARepplies/COM-Replies-SR-2024-17/COM-Replies-SR-2024-17_EN.pdf.