

EN

E-001461/2024

Answer given by Ms Ferreira
on behalf of the European Commission
(18.9.2024)

The Commission provides reasonable assurance in its annual activity reports that for Cohesion policy, the level of error is lower than the materiality threshold of 2% for most programmes, and slightly above 2% for the overall expenditure, taking into account potential additional risks. Where the level of error is material, the Commission performs multiannual controls and requests corrections to bring the error rate below 2% by the time of programme closure, based on the regulatory requirements for the application of financial corrections. Thus, the final error rate reported for all cohesion programmes is, according to the Commission's calculations, approximately 1.3%.

In parallel, the Commission will continue all its administrative capacity building actions for programme authorities. It will also continue the use of its preventive and corrective tools and mechanisms in safeguarding the EU budget such as retention on interim payments, interruptions and suspensions of payments, and financial corrections.

The report¹ mentioned by the Honourable Member was produced by a group of independent high-level specialists. Among other topics, the report describes some of the drivers of Euroscepticism, based on academic literature.

¹ High-Level Group on the Future of Cohesion Policy, Forging a sustainable future together – Cohesion for a competitive and inclusive Europe, Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy, Publications Office of the European Union, 2024. https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/policy/how/future-cohesion-policy_en