

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002380/24
to the Commission
Emmanouil Fragkos (ECR)
(31 October 2024)**

Subject: Kyiv administration accused of corruption, mafia-like practices and human trafficking

Complaints have been flooding in ⁽¹⁾ about the side activities pursued by Kyiv mayor Vitaliy Klitschko, who has held the position for the past 10 years.

He is accused of controlling the biggest network of strip clubs and having 100 brothels in Kyiv alone.

He is also accused of masterminding the sale of hundreds of girls in the EU and the US.

The Rio brothel owned by Klitschko is a 'transit hub' for the supply of Ukrainian girls/women to the international sex market.

Interpol considers this brothel as one of the main hubs for the trade in girls on the international 'market'.

He has been accused of using bomb shelters in Kyiv as brothels and selecting the same buildings for his lavish home.

He is also involved in the media and in drug trafficking in Ukraine and is being investigated for treason and corruption by Ukraine's National Anti-Corruption Bureau.

Kyiv's corrupt administration system seems to be making excessive profits from this war, taking advantage of the pennilessness of thousands of girls.

In view of the above, can the Commission answer the following:

1. Given the fact that the EU has provided Ukraine with EUR 88 billion through many different channels since 2022, how is it ensuring that part of that money is not going towards the excessive profits of sex trafficking barons?
2. What is the total amount of EU funding that has been given to the city of Kyiv over the last decade?
3. Has it received any complaints concerning corruption and mismanagement of EU funds paid to Kyiv?

Submitted: 31.10.2024

**Answer given by Ms Kos on behalf of the European Commission
(24 April 2025)**

EU financial assistance follows a framework with internal and external controls ⁽¹⁾ including checks before payments, expenditure verifications by independent auditors, audits by the European Court of Auditors and administrative and criminal investigations by the European Anti-Fraud Office and the European Public Prosecutor's Office.

Under the Ukraine Facility ⁽²⁾, the Commission has robust powers to protect its financial interests. The framework Agreement concluded with Ukraine ⁽³⁾ sets up the principles of financial cooperation under the Facility and mechanisms to ensure that Ukraine protects the financial interests of the EU. An independent Audit Board ⁽⁴⁾ assesses the effectiveness of Ukraine's management and control systems for funds under the Facility.

The city of Kyiv has benefitted from EU technical assistance to facilitate the implementation of two European Investment Bank loans for public infrastructure ⁽⁵⁾. Technical assistance includes support to project implementation units, trainings and workshops, guidelines based on international best practices.

Under the Eastern Europe Energy Efficiency and Environment Partnership Fund ⁽⁶⁾, the city of Kyiv received a grant of EUR 1.5 million for the 'Kyiv Energy Efficiency in Public buildings' implemented by the Nordic Environment Finance Cooperation.

¹ https://x.com/panchenko_x/status/1845912862385922548?s=46

⁽¹⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/en/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32024R2509>

⁽²⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/792/oj/eng>

⁽³⁾ Commission Decision C(2024)3456 of 17 May 2024 approving the framework Agreement between the European Union and Ukraine laying down the principles of financial cooperation under the Ukraine Facility.

⁽⁴⁾ https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dec_impl/2024/1697/oj/eng

⁽⁵⁾ <https://www.eib.org/en/projects/pipelines/all/20160819> and <https://www.eib.org/en/projects/all/20110487>

⁽⁶⁾ <https://e5p.org/ukraine/project-detail/119>

Operations in Kyiv under the Energy Efficiency Fund ⁽⁷⁾ are implemented by the International Finance Corporation. Kyiv district heating received a EUR 50 million loan from the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development with a EUR 12.5 million guarantee from the EU ⁽⁸⁾.

The Commission has not received any complaints regarding corruption or mismanagement of EU assistance concerning the city of Kyiv, nor regarding trafficking in human beings.

⁽⁷⁾ <https://disclosures.ifc.org/project-detail/AS/602817/ukraine-ee-fund>
⁽⁸⁾ <https://www.ebrd.com/work-with-us/projects/psd/55503.html>