

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-003688/25
to the Commission
Harald Vilimsky (PfE), Georg Mayer (PfE)
(23 September 2025)**

Subject: Romania's managing authority for environmental promotion (AFM)

An investigative report suggests that Romania awarded funding from the 'Casa Verde' and REPowerEU programmes to the Romanian managing authority for environmental support (AFM — Administrația Fondului pentru Mediu) not on the basis of objective criteria, but rather on political grounds, giving rise to allegations of corruption and misappropriation of EU funds. The European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO) is already investigating the possibility that EU funds have been misused. The risk of systematic corruption in Romania raises pressing questions on scrutiny, transparency and accountability in the allocation of EU funds.

1. What preventive measures is the Commission taking to ensure that EU funds are protected against corruption and misappropriation both at EU level and in Romania?
2. How is the Commission cooperating with national anti-corruption authorities such as the Romanian National Anti-Corruption Directorate (DNA — Direcția Națională Anticorupție)?
3. What is being done to improve the protection of whistle-blowers and increase public transparency and traceability of recipients of EU funds, in order to detect possible instances of misappropriation or nepotism?

Submitted: 23.9.2025

**Answer given by Executive Vice-President Fitto on behalf of the European Commission
(21 November 2025)**

The Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF) and the cohesion policy control frameworks include mechanisms to protect the EU's financial interests, notably through the prevention, detection, and correction of fraud, corruption, and conflicts of interest.

Member States bear the primary responsibility for safeguarding EU financial interests and ensuring compliance with both EU and national applicable law.

The Commission carries out assessments of the adequacy of the management and control systems both under RRF and cohesion policy and, where necessary, proposes measures to address shortcomings.

Under RRF for example in cases of fraud, corruption, or conflict of interest, the Commission may proportionally reduce the support granted and recover any amounts due to the EU budget.

Under Cohesion policy, the Commission may interrupt or suspend payments and apply financial corrections when serious deficiencies are identified and the Member States failed to take action in first instance.

The Commission identified some issues on the protection of whistle-blowers through its audits in Romania. These issues are being closely followed up.

To ensure transparency and traceability of recipients of EU funds, Member States should collect data on final recipients of EU funds including for their beneficial owners in the case of Cohesion. Romania published data on the 100 final recipients receiving the highest amount of funding from the RRF and Kohesio database presents data on all Cohesion beneficiaries.

The Commission cooperates closely with the European Anti-Fraud Office and the European Public Prosecutor Office. This further strengthens the EU's capacity to effectively oversee RRF and cohesion policy expenditure.
