

EN
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Answer given by Mr Kubilius
on behalf of the European Commission
(4.3.2026)

The grant agreement signed with the consortium requires beneficiaries to notify the Commission in advance of any transfer of ownership or licensing of results to a non-associated third country or entity. Compliance with this contractual obligation may be verified *ex post* by the Commission, in particular through audits.

The assessment involves checking whether the third country is subject to any restrictive measures adopted by the Council in the framework of the Common Foreign and Security Policy (e.g. arms embargos, restriction on admissions, asset freezes and other economic measures such as restrictions on imports and exports). The assessment would also check whether the transfer could contravene the objectives in Article 3 of the European Defence Fund (EDF) Regulation¹.

Notifications made under Article 23(4) of the EDF Regulation are not intended to be made public. The assessment as to whether access is possible may take place following the submission of a request for access to documents, which is assessed in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001².

¹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/697/oj/eng>.

² <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2001/1049/oj/eng>.