

EN

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Answer given by Mr Dombrovskis
on behalf of the European Commission
(24.9.2026)

The Commission has robust procedures in place for the prevention and detection of fraud in the management of EU funds¹. Under the Financial Regulation, applying to all EU funds, including SURE, NextGenerationEU and Cohesion policy funds.

Member States must prevent, detect and correct irregularities and fraud. Additionally, the Commission carries out system audits, flags suspicions to the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) and, where relevant, the European Public Prosecutor's Office investigates.

The Spanish 'Fondo de Apoyo a la Solvencia de Empresas Estrategicas', which provided financial support to Plus Ultra, was not linked to any milestone or target in the Council Implementing Decision related to the Spanish Recovery and Resilience Plan in force². Cohesion policy funds, including REACT EU, were not concerned either. As for SURE, it provided loans to Member States to finance short-time work schemes and similar measures.

¹ Articles 36 and 63 of the Financial Regulation: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=OJ:L_202402509.

² See link to the CID related to the Spanish Recovery and Resilience Plan, including amendments (COM(2026) 257): https://eur-lex.europa.eu/resource.html?uri=cellar:56ce2369-5451-11f1-b3e2-01aa75ed71a1.0001.02/DOC_1&format=PDF.