

(English version)

**Priority question for written answer P-003685/25  
to the Commission  
Harald Vilimsky (PfE), Georg Mayer (PfE)  
(23 September 2025)**

*Subject:* Oversight of the use of EU funds

An investigative report accuses the Romanian managing authority for environmental support (AFM — Administrația Fondului pentru Mediu) of having selectively awarded funding from the ‘Casa Verde’ programme under the REPowerEU initiative. Following alerts from Austria and other countries, the European Public Prosecutor’s Office (EPPO) is investigating allegations that EU funds have been misused. Companies in a number of Member States, including Germany, are affected. The case raises questions about how EU funding — and its intended use — is monitored.

1. What mechanisms and instruments does the Commission have in place to oversee how EU funds — including the structural and cohesion funds and the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF) — are used in the Member States?
2. Is the Commission aware of systemic weaknesses, political interference or mismanagement in the allocation and use of EU funds, particularly in Romania?
3. What conclusions have been drawn from the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) and EPPO investigations into structural problems or repeated misuse of EU funds in Romania, and how effective does the Commission consider national and regional authorities to be in addressing these issues?

Submitted: 23.9.2025

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

The Commission has a variety of tools to monitor the implementation of the budget in all Member States and ensure the protection of the EU’s financial interests.

The Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF) control framework includes strict mechanisms to protect the EU’s financial interests, notably through the prevention, detection and correction of fraud, corruption and conflicts of interest.

In line with the RRF Regulation <sup>(1)</sup>, Member States bear primary responsibility for safeguarding these interests and ensuring compliance with both EU and national law.

In cases of serious irregularities affecting the EU’s financial interests not adequately addressed by the Member State, the Commission may reduce the support granted under the RRF and recover any amounts due to the EU budget <sup>(2)</sup>.

Concerning cohesion funds, the Commission has a robust assurance model in place based on an efficient use of resources in the context of the single audit principle with programme audit authorities in the Member States.

The Commission considers the national audit authorities reliable, based on its continued supervision and review of their methodologies, processes and re-performance of their activities <sup>(3)</sup>.

Close cooperation with the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) and the European Public Prosecutor’s Office (EPPO) further strengthens the EU’s capacity to effectively oversee RRF and cohesion policy expenditure.

The Commission pays close attention to investigations and recommendations by OLAF and EPPO but does not interfere with ongoing investigations <sup>(4)</sup>. The Commission follows up on conclusions reported by these independent offices.

The Commission is not aware, nor has it been informed by OLAF or the EPPO, of any systemic mismanagement in the allocation or use of RRF or cohesion funds in Romania <sup>(5)</sup>.

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<sup>(1)</sup> Regulation (EU) 2021/241 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 February 2021 establishing the Recovery and Resilience Facility, OJ L 57, 18.2.2021.

<sup>(2)</sup> The Commission carries out assessments of the adequacy of national control systems and may recover funds in cases of a serious breach of the Financing Agreement signed with a Member State, or in cases of fraud, corruption or conflict of interest, where the Member State fails to take corrective action.

<sup>(3)</sup> The Commission carries out audits of the authorities and re-performs a sample of their audit work to assess the reliability of the audit results they communicate to the Commission. Where deficiencies are identified, the Commission requests and monitors remedial actions. It also reports on any such issues in its respective Annual Activity Reports.

<sup>(4)</sup> OLAF and EPPO are independent bodies responsible for investigating and/or prosecuting crimes against the EU’s financial interests.

<sup>(5)</sup> It should be noted that the ‘Casa Verde’ programme is not financed under the REPowerEU chapter of Romania’s Recovery and Resilience Plan.