

EPPO and OLAF Lead Successful Investigation into Procurement Fraud in Croatia



euclid

European Law Forum: Prevention • Investigation • Prosecution

News

Thomas Wahl

The EPPO and OLAF conducted one of the first joint operations. The investigations concerned procurement fraud in the purchase of an information system for the Croatian Ministry of Regional Development and EU Funds (MRRFEU). The investigations resulted in the arrest of four suspects on 10 November 2021; they involved the minister of the MRRFEU, the Director of Croatia's Central Finance and Contracting Agency (SAFU), and two businessmen. The EPPO's press release described in detail the detected fraud scheme. The suspects used their positions to adjust the procurement specifications and to conduct a negotiated procurement procedure without a public tender. The total damage for the EU's financial interests is around € 1.8 million.

The case was transmitted by OLAF to the EPPO in June 2021. OLAF supported the investigations by two on-the-spot checks and digital forensic operations in Croatia.

AUTHOR

Thomas Wahl

Senior Researcher
Max Planck Institute for the
Study of Crime, Security and
Law

ISSN: 1862-6947

<https://euclid.eu>



About euclid

euclid is the leading journal which regularly informs about current developments in European criminal and "criminative" law.

All news items are freely accessible at: <https://euclid.eu/news/>

Stay informed by emailing to euclid-subscribe@csl.mpg.de to receive alerts for new releases of issues.

The project is co-financed by the Union Anti-Fraud Programme (UAFP), managed by the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF).



**Co-funded by
the European Union**