

# Europol Supports EPPO in Breaking up VAT Fraud Scheme



**euclid**

European Law Forum: Prevention • Investigation • Prosecution

**Cornelia Riehle**

**News**

On 29 November 2022, a major [VAT fraud scheme](#) worth an estimated €2.2 billion was uncovered by the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO). The bust was supported by Europol and its European Financial and Economic Crime Centre (EFECC) as well as by law enforcement agencies from 14 EU Member States. The investigation, which had already begun in April 2021, revealed a VAT fraud scheme based on the sale of electronic goods through a suspected company in Portugal and close to 9000 other legal entities, involving more than 600 natural persons located in over 30 countries. Europol provided analytical support, helped obtain financial information from Financial Intelligence Units across Europe, and deployed six experts to assist in the investigative measures at the national level during the Action Day.

## **AUTHOR**

**Cornelia Riehle**

Deputy Head of Section  
Academy of European Law

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