

InvestigAid Conference 2025



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European Law Forum: Prevention • Investigation • Prosecution

Thomas Wahl

News

From 22 to 24 October 2025, investigators, auditors and external aid experts discussed new patterns and risks affecting international development assistance. The **annual InvestigAid conference** was held in Bucharest, Romania, co-organised by OLAF and the Romanian Agency for International Development (RoAid).

Discussion points included the strengthening of accountability and resilience in public aid programmes, digitalisation and cyber-enabled fraud, new cooperation models between donors and recipient countries, and the strategic planning of development assistance to prevent misuse of funds. Insights were also provided on emerging fraud schemes and oversight reforms. Participants also shared technology-enabled investigation techniques, such as the use of satellite imagery in investigations.

The InvestigAid conference, which has been held since 2021 upon OLAF's initiative, is part of the Office's efforts to strengthen the global alliance against fraud into development aid.

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