

OLAF Detects Major Customs and VAT Fraud with Textiles from China

Thomas Wahl



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News

On 10 November 2021, OLAF reported that it [detected an EU-wide fraud scheme](#) which damaged the EU's financial interests by €14 million of undeclared customs duties and around €93 of evaded VAT. The investigations involved a total of nearly 2000 consignments of textiles and shoes, which were imported from China through various ports in the EU by UK companies. The fraudsters under-declared the value and they evaded VAT through various shipments in the EU. Goods disappeared from official customs controls and were likely sold on the black market. The case concerned 11 EU Member States to which OLAF send recommendations for recovery. It was also reported to the EPPO for criminal follow-up investigations.

AUTHOR

Thomas Wahl

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

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