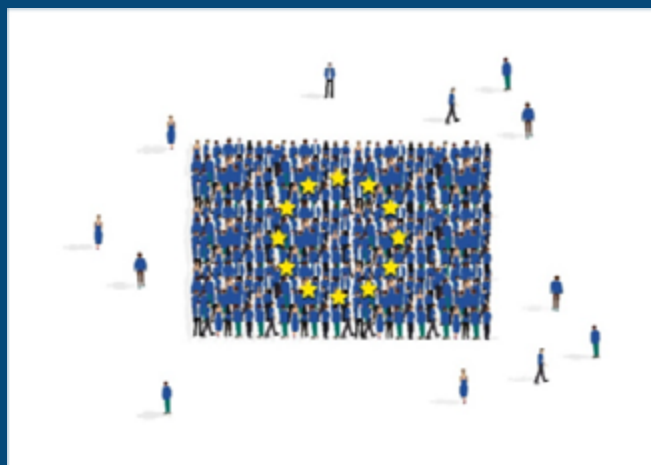




Authority for European Political Parties  
and European Political Foundations

# Annual Activity Report 2023



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# Abbreviations

Extensive descriptions	Abbreviations
Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 October 2014 on the statute and funding of European political parties and European political foundations	Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014
Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/673 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 3 May 2018 amending Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 on the statute and funding of European political parties and European political foundations	Amending Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/673
Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2019/493 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 March 2019 amending Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 regarding a verification procedure related to infringements of rules on the protection of personal data in the context of elections to the European Parliament	Amending Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2019/493
Authority for European Political Parties and European Political Foundations	Authority
Public funding from the general budget of the European Union	Union funding

## Foreword by the Director

As the European Union prepares for the elections to the European Parliament to be held from 6 to 9 June 2024, democratic integrity is more important than ever. Throughout 2023, the team at the Authority for European Political Parties and European Political Foundations was dedicated to preparing the ground for a fair electoral contest on the basis of a level playing field.

This collective effort involved all areas of competence of the Authority, and all cooperation workstreams with its institutional partners. Among the highlights of the year past, the annual report will guide you through the work on the Authority's European Campaign Action Plan ("E-CAP") which serves as guidance for the European political parties' electoral campaigns, a memorandum of understanding signed with Europol on exchange of strategic information on cyber-enabled attacks on elections, studies the Authority published on national law affecting European political parties and on threats of foreign interference, outreach work including a table-top exercise with national competent authorities, a project with schools and a contract with EU-wide voting information services.

Naturally, the annual report does not neglect the recurrent verification and control cycles that the Authority conducted throughout 2023 either, as well as developments relating to transparency services to the citizens.

The annual report also provides detailed annexes on the current membership structures of European political parties and on the Authority's contact points in the Member States. On the latter aspect, the Authority deplores that, despite its repeated calls, one Member State still has not appointed a contact point for the Authority as provided by Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014.

Finally, the annual report provides an update on the current resources situation of the Authority. The Authority is grateful for the excellent cooperation with the committee on budgets and the administration of the European Parliament, which has yielded tangible results in pursuit of the shared goal of defending European democracy.

Enjoy the reading!



Pascal SCHONARD

# Executive Summary

This Annual Activity Report outlines the work undertaken and obstacles confronted by the Authority throughout 2023. It summarises the various tasks managed, methodologies employed, and insights gained during the specified year. Additionally, it presents a preview of the Authority's planned activities leading up to the European elections period of 6-9 June 2024.

The report starts with an introduction to European political parties and European political foundations. This includes an overview of the administrative and legal framework, specifically Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 and its amendments.

Subsequently, the report elaborates on the standard operations of the Authority, spotlighting key areas within its mandate. This encompasses the registration and verification of European political parties and foundations, scrutiny of their compliance with Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014, and the provision of transparency services. The Authority's website serves as a platform for citizens to explore information on European political parties and foundations, including details on their structure, governance, and funding.

During these times of essential importance for European democracy, a notable focus of this report is placed on the 2024 European Parliament elections as well as efforts to render the European political parties and foundations more accessible and visible to the citizens.

The report also briefly outlines the internal administration of the Authority, covering various aspects such as human resources and budgetary considerations.

The report concludes with a glimpse into the Authority's preparatory work for the post-election period.

# 1. THE AUTHORITY FOR EUROPEAN POLITICAL PARTIES AND EUROPEAN POLITICAL FOUNDATIONS

## 1.1. Introduction

The preservation of democratic integrity and the establishment of a fair environment for European political parties and foundations are crucial for the effective functioning and credibility of the European Union. The Authority, an independent European Union body, has been actively involved in this endeavour since its establishment on 1 September 2016 and further as of 1 January 2017 when it achieved its full operational status.

The Authority is tasked by the European Union legislator with registering, monitoring compliance, and where necessary imposing sanctions on European political parties and foundations in accordance with Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014<sup>1</sup> and its subsequent amendments<sup>2</sup>. Additionally, the Authority delivers transparency services to citizens.

## 1.2. Mission of the Authority

The mission of the Authority is to safeguard the integrity of European Union democracy by ensuring the compliance of European political parties and foundations with Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 while upholding procedural rights.

Moreover, the Authority contributes to fostering political awareness at European level by offering transparency services to Union citizens. This includes disseminating crucial information on European political parties and foundations, such as structural details on membership and governance, lists of received donations and contributions, and the political programs of these entities.

The comprehensive information is contained in the Register of European political parties and European political foundations, with publications made in accordance with Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014.

The Authority's director and team carry out this mission independently and in adherence to political pluralism within the EU. Collaborating closely with the European Parliament, other Union institutions, bodies, agencies, and national authorities, the Authority strives to build a robust "Team democratic integrity" for the European Union.

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 317, 4.11.2014, p. 1–27.

<sup>2</sup> Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/673, OJ L 114I, 4.5.2018, p. 1; Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2019/493, OJ L 851 , 27.3.2019, p. 7.

## 2. EUROPEAN POLITICAL PARTIES AND FOUNDATIONS

European political parties have begun to appear in advance of the first direct European elections of 1979 and have since gradually developed in number and as regards their activities.

Formally recognised by the Treaty of Maastricht<sup>3</sup>, the role of the European political parties is set out in Article 10(4) of the Treaty on European Union<sup>4</sup> and in Article 12(2) of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union<sup>5</sup>. This role is more than a cooperation of existing political families across borders: Indeed, according to these Treaty provisions, European political parties *“contribute to forming European political awareness and to expressing the will of citizens of the Union”*. European political parties are therefore the recognised manifestation of a political transmission mechanism directly between the citizens and their European Union.

Financial support by the Union’s budget, as well as conditions and prohibitions relating thereto, were initially governed by Regulation (EC) No 2004/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 4 November 2003 on the regulations governing political parties at European level and the rules regarding their funding<sup>6</sup>. The rules on the statute and funding of European political parties are currently provided for in Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 based on Article 224 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union<sup>7</sup>.

<sup>3</sup> OJ C 191, 29.7.1992, p. 1-112.

<sup>4</sup> OJ C 326, 26.10.2012, p. 13-390.

<sup>5</sup> OJ C 326, 26.10.2012, p. 391-407.

<sup>6</sup> OJ L 297, 15.11.2003, p. 1-4, based on Article 191 of the Treaty establishing the European Community as amended by the Treaty of Nice amending the Treaty on European Union, the Treaties establishing the European Communities and certain related acts, OJ C 80, 10.3.2001, 1-87.

<sup>7</sup> OJ C 326, 26.10.2012, p. 1-390.



# 3. THE CURRENT LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

## 3.1. Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014

Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 has set up a new legal framework on the statute and funding of European political parties and their affiliated European political foundations requiring European political parties and European political foundations to provide a strong link between citizens of the Union and European democracy, with particular focus on integrity and transparency. Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 established the Authority and introduced a series of rights and obligations for European political parties and European political foundations.

Following a registration procedure with the Authority, European political parties and foundations obtain a fully-fledged European legal personality and can apply for Union funding. At the same time, they must respect conditions and obligations, in particular those related to donations and contributions they receive, their activities and the key requirement to observe the values upon which the Union is founded.

The Regulation on the statute and funding of European political parties and European political foundations was amended twice since its adoption. In 2018, Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 was amended by Amending Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/673 to avoid undesirable consequences of multi-party membership and to modify financing rules, and in 2019 it was amended by Amending Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2019/493 to strengthen the protection of personal data ahead of the 2019 European elections.

The European Parliament called for further amendments of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014, in its resolution of 26 November 2020 on stocktaking of European elections (2020/2088(INI))<sup>8</sup> and in its resolution of 11 November 2021 on the application of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 on the statute and funding of European political parties and European political foundations (2021/2018(INI))<sup>9</sup>. Following European Parliament's call and the European Commission's European democracy action plan<sup>10</sup> (2020), the European Commission presented a new legislative proposal on 25 November 2021<sup>11</sup>. This proposal has been subject to negotiating positions by both the European Parliament<sup>12</sup> and the Council<sup>13</sup>, but has not been adopted yet.

<sup>8</sup> OJ C 425, 20.10.2021, p. 98–106.

<sup>9</sup> OJ C 205, 20.5.2022, p. 37–43.

<sup>10</sup> [European Democracy Action Plan](https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/priorities-2019-2024/new-push-european-democracy/european-democracy-action-plan_en): [https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/priorities-2019-2024/new-push-european-democracy/european-democracy-action-plan\\_en](https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/priorities-2019-2024/new-push-european-democracy/european-democracy-action-plan_en).

<sup>11</sup> Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the statute and funding of European political parties and European political foundations (recast), COM(2021)734 final, 2021/0375 (COD), 25.11.2021.

<sup>12</sup> On 15 September 2022 the European Parliament in its Plenary session adopted its position at first reading (Amendments adopted by the European Parliament on 15 September 2022 on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the statute and funding of European political parties and European political foundations, P9\_TA(2022)0328).

<sup>13</sup> On 22 March 2022, Council in its General Affairs formation (GAC) reached a political agreement (a partial general approach, doc. ST 7429/22) on the proposal. The Council revised its mandate on 17 March 2023 (Guidance for further work, ST 7247/23).

## 3.2. Amending Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/673

Amending Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/673<sup>14</sup> has, among other things, tightened the conditions for registration as a European political party. This led to the removal of two European political parties and one affiliated European political foundation from the Register of European political parties and European political foundations. Consequently, these three entities were no longer eligible to receive the contributions and grants from the general budget of the European Union. The amendment also refined the regulatory powers conferred upon the Authority and modified the notion of National Contact Point(s), the entities/persons designated at national level to exchange information in the context of the application of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014.

## 3.3. Amending Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2019/493

In March 2019, the European Parliament and the Council adopted Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2019/493<sup>15</sup> which amended Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 as regards a verification procedure related to infringements of rules on the protection of personal data in the context of elections to the European Parliament.

The specific verification procedure which it introduced aims at enabling the Authority to sanction European political parties and/or European political foundations that deliberately influence, or attempt to influence, the outcome of European elections by taking advantage of an infringement by a natural or legal person of the applicable rules on the protection of personal data. This verification procedure can only be triggered after a decision of the national supervisory authority, and depends in practice additionally on the Authority being informed of this decision. It is therefore essential that the communication between national authorities and the Authority takes place smoothly and without any delay. The Authority invested considerable effort in raising awareness among competent authorities at European Union level and in the Member States throughout 2023.

## 3.4. Recast of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014

The Commission proposal of 25 November 2021 for a recast of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 is currently still under negotiation and the Authority continued to provide technical advice to both co-legislators throughout 2023 upon their respective requests<sup>16</sup>.

<sup>14</sup> OJ L 1141, 4.5.2018, p. 1–6.

<sup>15</sup> OJ L 851, 27.3.2019, p. 7–10.

<sup>16</sup> See the European Commission Proposal for a Regulation on the statute and funding of European political parties and European political foundations (recast) of 25 November 2021 (COM(2021) 734 final, 2021/0375 (COD)). On 15 September 2022 the European Parliament in its Plenary session adopted its position at first reading. On 22 March 2022, Council in its General Affairs formation (GAC) reached a political agreement (a partial general approach) on the proposal. The Council revised its mandate on 17 March 2023.

## 4. STANDARD OPERATIONS AT THE AUTHORITY

### 4.1. Registration/Verification

#### 4.1.1. Conditions



There are several conditions for a European political party to be registered, *inter alia*:

- A European political party must at all times be composed of member parties in at least a quarter of Member States. These parties must be represented by an elected mandate-holder at either European, national or regional level.
- A European political party must have its seat in a Member State and this must be indicated in its statutes. The statutes must follow all the provisions set out by Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014. The Member State of the seat can impose additional requirements for the statutes which have to be consistent with the Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014.
- A European political party must observe the values on which the Union is founded, comply with the rule of law and respect for human rights and they cannot seek profits in their functioning.

There are several conditions for a European political foundation to be registered, *inter alia*:

- A European political foundation must be affiliated with European political party already registered with the Authority and comply with the governance provisions set out by Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014.
- A European political foundation must have its seat in a Member State and this must be indicated in its statutes. The statutes must follow all the provisions set out by Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014. The Member State of the seat can impose additional requirements for the statutes which have to be consistent with the Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014.
- A European political foundation must observe the values on which the Union is founded, comply with the rule of law and respect for human rights and they cannot seek profits in their functioning.

#### 4.1.2. Registration/Verifications carried out by the Authority in 2023

The Authority consistently verifies whether European political parties and foundations continue to adhere to the registration conditions. Throughout 2023, these verifications occurred in various instances:

- As part of the regular verification cycle concerning the structure and governance of European political parties and foundations;
- Following relevant elections in Member States;

- In response to changing administrative setups within specific European political parties and foundations;
- In the context of funding applications submitted to the European Parliament for the 2024 budgetary year, with a particular focus on verifying the number of Members of the European Parliament to be counted to each European political party as at 30 September 2023.

To enhance procedural efficiency and minimise red tape, new templates were created, as well as other documents useful for future registrations.

The Authority issued several preventive compliance recommendations to address compliance risks before they materialise, especially pertaining to requirements concerning governance provisions and internal structures outlined in Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014, especially regarding structural aspects and governance provisions.

More specifically, the Authority provided preliminary input on possible statutory amendments envisaged by European political parties and European political foundations. Following the Authority’s advice, seven entities have introduced amendments in their statutes and internal regulations with the objective of mitigating compliance risks, in particular to prevent potential threats of foreign interference.

STRUCTURAL ASPECT	CORRESPONDING ACTION POINTS
Mitigating risk of non-EU interference in the activities and management of the European political parties and European political foundations.	<p>While European political parties and European political foundations may enter into structured relations with persons and entities outside the EU, certain distinctions are to be drawn between the latter and the EU citizens or entities in accordance with Article 10(4) of the Treaty on European Union as well as Articles 2(1), 2(4), 3(1)(b) and 3(2)(e) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014.</p> <p>The Authority systematically monitors that safeguards were implemented to ensure, in day-to-day management and governing structures of the European political parties and European political foundations, that persons who hold no EU citizenship or non-EU entities could not, individually or collectively, impose a course of action against, or block, EU citizens or members in the corresponding structures.</p>

The Authority has in five cases given the European political parties and European political foundations the opportunity for corrective measures regarding matters subject to verification, as required by the Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014. These were cases relating to reporting requirements, replies to requests for information by the Authority and provision of documents. Early scrutiny indicates that the relevant corrective measures were implemented by the European political parties and foundations concerned in all but one of these cases. The Authority continues to monitor that corrective measures with long-term effect will ensure sustained compliance in the areas concerned. The Authority adopted one sanction decision in the course of 2023 that is currently subject to Court proceedings.

In order to ensure compliance with Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014, the Authority also continued publishing extensive guidance on its website referring to the most commonly identified risk areas and potentially problematic structures in the governance of European political parties and European political foundations. It also communicated its findings and guidance of general interest to all European political parties and European political foundations.

Throughout the year, the Authority identified various risk factors and outlined corresponding action points. Ongoing monitoring by the Authority ensures that these measures are consistently observed in practice.

EXAMPLES OF RISK FACTORS	CORRESPONDING ACTION POINTS
<p>Governance interaction between European political parties and their affiliated foundation.</p>	<p>While European political parties and their affiliated foundation are formally bound to each other (see Article 2(4) of the Regulation) and hence may cooperate, their decision-making processes and finances cannot be merged. More particularly, the respective day-to-day managements, governing structures and financial accounts of European political parties and their affiliated European political foundation must remain separate (Article 3(3) of the Regulation). Consequently, they:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• shall ensure effective separation, where necessary by avoidance of double office holders and/or, depending on the individual case, by ascertaining in a legally reliable form that double office holder(s) cannot impose on behalf of the party or foundation a course of action on the respective other entity;</li> <li>• additionally take appropriate statutory measures to clarify the separation.</li> </ul>
<p>Notification by European political party of incomplete list of member parties, not demonstrating that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• member parties are represented by, in at least one quarter of the Member States, members of the European Parliament, of national parliaments, of regional parliaments or of regional assemblies, or</li> <li>• member parties have received, in at least one quarter of the Member States, a minimum electoral result of 3% in each of those Member States in the latest European elections.</li> </ul>	<p>While European political parties are required to demonstrate having member parties fulfilling the representativeness criterion in only ¼ of Member States (currently seven), they are strongly encouraged, if possible, to notify more member parties fulfilling the criterion to avoid sudden compliance issues if one of the notified parties ceases to be a genuine member or loses its political representativeness.</p>

The Authority did not register any new applicant for registration, no de-registration occurred and no registration request is pending. Consequently, at the end of 2023,

10 European political parties and 10 affiliated European political foundations continued to be registered with the Authority. The currently registered European political parties are listed in Appendix 1, along with their full member parties and respective affiliated European political foundations.

### 4.1.3. Union values

The Authority's responsibilities encompass ensuring compliance with the fundamental values underpinning the Union, as outlined in Article 2 of the Treaty on European Union. A specific process is outlined for evaluating the adherence of European political parties and foundations to the set of values delineated in Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014. In the event that any registered entity is determined, following the procedure outlined in the Regulation and at the request of the European Parliament, the Council, or the Commission, to be in clear and severe violation of the obligation to uphold Union values, the Authority would have to make the decision to de-register the concerned entity.

This process also includes seeking an advisory opinion from the Committee of Independent Eminent Persons (the "Committee") as established by Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014. The Committee is involved in an advisory role in certain verification procedures that may lead to the imposition of sanctions on European political parties and European political foundations. For the current legislative term, the European Parliament, the Council and meanwhile also the Commission have each designated two members to serve on the Committee. [Details of the current Committee members](https://www.appf.europa.eu/appf/en/other-information/committees-appf) can be found at the following link: <https://www.appf.europa.eu/appf/en/other-information/committees-appf>.

The Authority has taken the initiative to work closely with the European Parliament which acts as the secretariat of the Committee, in order to ensure smooth notification workflows in case of a need for the Authority to obtain an opinion from the Committee in a concrete case.

## 4.2. Compliance controls

### 4.2.1. Background

The Authority controls compliance by European political parties and European political foundations with their obligations under Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 in cooperation with the Authorising Officer of the European Parliament and the competent Member States' authorities. In line with its mandate, the Authority controls compliance of the donations and contributions accepted by European political parties and European political foundations as well as the use of funding, irrespective of whether it originates from own resources or the Union budget, and taking into consideration the prohibitions laid down in Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014.

The controls are conducted independently and within the limits of the Authority's mandate: the Authority conducts its checks of democratic integrity pursuant to



Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 even if Union funding is not involved. The Authorising Officer of the European Parliament controls compliance by European political parties and European political foundations with the obligations relating to Union funding in accordance with the Financial Regulation<sup>17</sup>. For matters not regulated by Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014, the Member State of the European political parties' and foundations' seat, and of the place of their activities, respectively, remains competent to apply national law.

The following table summarises some key substantive rules of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014, for which the Authority is competent to check compliance:

<b>DONATIONS AND CONTRIBUTIONS</b>	
<b>Principle</b>	<b>Non-compliant</b>
European political parties and European political foundations may accept donations from natural or legal persons of up to a value of EUR 18 000 per year and per donor.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• donations exceeding EUR 18 000 per year and per donor</li> <li>• anonymous donations or contributions</li> <li>• donations from the budgets of political groups in the European Parliament</li> <li>• donations from any public authority from a Member State or a third country</li> <li>• donations from any private entities or individuals (not having the right to vote in the European elections) based in a third country</li> </ul>
<b>ACTIVITIES</b>	
<b>EUROPEAN POLITICAL PARTIES</b>	
<b>Principle</b>	<b>Non-compliant</b>
The funding of European political parties from the general budget of the European Union or from any other source may be used to finance campaigns conducted by the European political parties in the context of elections to the European Parliament in which they or their members participate.	<p>The funding of European political parties from the general budget of the European Union or from any other source cannot be used for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• direct or indirect funding of other political parties, and in particular national parties or candidates</li> <li>• referendum campaigns</li> </ul>
<b>ACTIVITIES</b>	
<b>EUROPEAN POLITICAL FOUNDATIONS</b>	
<b>Principle</b>	<b>Non-compliant</b>
The funding of European political foundations from the general budget of the European Union shall be used for financing their tasks as listed in point (4) of Article 2 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 and to meet expenditure directly linked to the objectives set out in their statutes.	<p>The funding of European political foundations from the general budget of the European Union or from any other source cannot be used for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• direct or indirect funding of elections, political parties, or candidates or other foundations</li> <li>• referendum campaigns</li> </ul>

<sup>17</sup> Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p.1-222.



#### 4.2.2. Implementation in 2023

During 2023, the Authority's compliance controls team carried out compliance controls taking into account in particular the annual submissions of European political parties' and European political foundations' financial documentation concerning the year 2022. In addition to this regular annual process, the Authority also carried out *ad hoc* compliance controls, such as in cases of advance notifications of donations exceeding EUR 12 000 or when the Authority became aware of other potential instances of non-compliance with Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014.

In addition to the strong relations with the European Parliament, which were further enhanced, relations with existing contact points in the Member States<sup>18</sup> have proven to be of great practical use in this context. To ensure the lasting fluidity of this cooperation, in 2023 the Authority organised a first annual conference of the Authority and the national contact points, in the presence also of the services of the European Parliament, to deepen mutual understanding and exchange best practices. To increase efficiency and the effectiveness of its controls, the Authority has further optimised its internal work process based on the outcome of the previous year.

The aim of the Authority's compliance control activities is to prevent and, where necessary, sanction infringements of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014. Thus the Authority sent several preventive compliance recommendation letters to European political parties and European political foundations, enabling them to better assess their internal processes in the area of donations, contributions and the activities they plan to organise. Upon individual requests to the Authority, European political parties and European political foundations were provided with individualised guidance as well.

Where the Authority identified horizontal compliance risks, corresponding action points were communicated to the European political parties and foundations.

In order to ensure compliance with Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014, the Authority also published extensive guidance on its website referring to the most commonly identified risk areas. The guidance is updated on a regular basis to incorporate the Authority's most recent experience.

<sup>18</sup> See the list in Appendix 3. To this day, and despite multiple outreach attempts on the Authority's initiative, Hungary is the only Member State which has not notified a national contact point to the Authority in accordance with Article 2(10) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014. The Authority has informed the European Commission hereof.



EXAMPLES OF RISK FACTORS	CORRESPONDING ACTION POINTS
Uncertainties about donor entities	<p><b>“Know your donor”</b> principle: European political parties and foundations may accept donations within the limits of Article 20 of the Regulation. A deadline of 30 days is provided by the Regulation for returning incoming payments that are not compliant with the prohibitions of the text. This means that European political parties and foundations need to develop an understanding of their donor entities in good time, in particular to identify the effective donor (which is not necessarily identical to the paying entity), country of origin (which is not necessarily identical to that of the bank account) and potential public control over the donor entity.</p>
Unclear funding modalities for a joint activity	<p><b>“Payer in the driver seat”</b> principle: While European political parties and foundations may co-organise activities with partner organisations, they cannot provide funding directly or indirectly to the entities referred to in Article 22 of the Regulation, most notably their own member parties or organisations, or candidates.</p> <p>European political parties and foundations therefore have to ensure by their project financing structure that their co-financing share for an activity together with a local partner organisation covered by Article 22 of the Regulation remains proportionate to their visibility and content influence in relation to the concrete activity.</p>

In cases of potential infringements, before the Authority imposes a sanction, Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 requires that an opportunity to take corrective measures be given<sup>19</sup>.

Corrective measures typically comprise a financial and a structural element. Indeed, corrective measures are not designed as a mere opportunity for late implementation of an obligation which would have had to be complied with before. Therefore, the Authority considers sufficient a corrective measure only if it is not limited to belated compliance with a pre-existing requirement (e.g. by payment of an amount that would have had to be disbursed or reimbursed at an earlier date), but additionally also contains structural measures that prevent future re-occurrence (this can be pedagogical measures internal to the staff, but also rescinding or re-designing of contracts, communication to member parties, contractors, etc.).

In 2023, the Authority gave European political parties and European political foundations a right to be heard as well as the opportunity to take corrective measures in accordance with Articles 29 and 34 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 in 10 cases relating to financial compliance controls. These concerned, in particular, the late submission of documentation mandatory under Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014, incomplete reporting to the Authority, acceptance of donations prohibited under Article 20 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014, and breaches of Article 22(1) or 22(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 in the context of joint activities. Early scrutiny indicates that the immediately relevant corrective measures were implemented by the European political parties and foundations concerned in all these

<sup>19</sup> Article 29 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014.

cases. The Authority continues to monitor that corrective measures with long-term effect will ensure sustained compliance in the areas concerned.

In addition, the Authority intends to optimise its compliance controls processes by data analytics. Hence, it commissioned support services for the integration of an IT tool in accordance with the mandate of the Authority under Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 and to identify the relevant risk markers across the European political parties' and foundations' transactions. Its main objective will be to streamline and render more effective the compliance controls process concerning European political parties and European political foundations by the Authority, while continuing to ensure human control as well as compliance with the personal data protection rules throughout the process.

### 4.3. Transparency services

#### 4.3.1. Website

One key task of the Authority is transparency, by supplying public information about European political parties and European political foundations such as the decisions to register them, the names and statutes of all registered European political parties and European political foundations, along with the documents submitted as part of their applications for registration and detailed information about donations and contributions received by European political parties and European political foundations.

In 2023, the Authority updated its transparency methodology in order to be able to fulfil its transparency obligations in an efficient and structured manner.

Based on case-law and the Authority's administrative experience acquired over time, the Authority has also continuously extended its offer of publicly accessible guidance on its website.

Tables of donations and contributions containing data for financial year 2022 were published on the Authority's website also in open data format. The Authority further maximised transparency by providing partial information on donations even if checks were still ongoing on some data categories, indicating so in a note to the publication where applicable.

As regards its website, the Authority is also continuing to take part in a website accessibility benchmarking exercise, by reference to internationally recognised standards.

The Authority further significantly expanded and accelerated its transparency services on the website, including in implementation of the specific pre-electoral donations reporting requirement which began to apply on 6 December 2023 and requires the European political parties and foundations to report donations as and when they are received, on a weekly basis. The Authority transposes these notifications into a publication on its website as swiftly as possible, usually within one week of having received them.



#### 4.3.2. Social media

The Authority's social media account continued to serve as a means to further increase the visibility of European political parties and European political foundations and to raise awareness of the citizens.

Inter alia, the social media account is the channel through which the Authority raises additional awareness on its own activities, news on the availability of updated information on its website, information about the ongoing legislative procedure, and other information that add value for the citizens in relation to European democracy.

# 5. PREPARING FOR THE 2024 EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT ELECTIONS

Preparing for the 2024 European Parliament elections involves a combination of organisational, informational, and strategic efforts both at European and national level. In 2023, the Authority, in addition to its regular tasks, has put its focus on contributing to best prepare all relevant stakeholders concerned within its mandate for the upcoming European elections.

More specifically, the following initiatives have been launched by the Authority in various areas of importance in the electoral context as part of the general common effort to help the European Union to get ready for the European elections 2024.

## 5.1. European Campaign Action Plan

A special emphasis in 2023 in providing guidance to European political parties was put on preventive compliance aspects with regards to the upcoming European elections: in particular, the Authority designed the [European Campaign Action Plan Tool](#) (E-CAP)<sup>20</sup> - a results-oriented, preventive compliance management guidance addressed to European political parties in order to facilitate the compliance of their campaigns for the European elections with Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014. E-CAP was welcomed by the European Parliament in its resolution of 12 December 2023 on the European Elections 2024<sup>21</sup>. The horizontal letter sent to all European political parties in this respect was published on the [Authority's website including the E-CAP template](#)<sup>22</sup>.

Article 21 of the Regulation applies only to European political parties and not to European political foundations.

The prohibition of directly or indirectly funding other political parties or candidates according to Article 22 of the Regulation remains applicable alongside Article 21 of the Regulation<sup>23</sup>.

**At the same time, Article 21 of the Regulation encourages European political parties to conduct their own European elections campaigns, which must remain in line with Union values, and which are complementary to but distinct from the campaigns of their member parties.**

<sup>20</sup> <https://www.appf.europa.eu/appf/en/guidance/european-campaign-action-plan>

<sup>21</sup> 2023/2016(INI), P9\_TA(2023)0455, point 3.

<sup>22</sup> Available at <https://www.appf.europa.eu/appf/en/guidance/european-campaign-action-plan>.

<sup>23</sup> The Authority recalls the criteria for [assessing compliance with Article 22](#) set out here: <https://www.appf.europa.eu/appf/en/guidance/prohibition-direct-indirect-funding>.



This also applies if the lead candidate of a European political party is at the same time candidate in the elections to the European Parliament in a given EU Member State. It follows that European political parties are entitled to contribute financially to campaigns in the context of the elections to the European Parliament, including if a European political party's lead candidate is simultaneously on an electoral list of a Member State, provided they comply with Article 22(1) of the Regulation as further specified above.

In light thereof, the Authority recalls the five guiding principles for the campaigns of European political parties in the context of European elections (as developed together with the Directorate-General for Finance of the European Parliament in 2018):

- Scope - transnational (i.e. include several Member States),
- Content - predominant focus on European topics,
- Ownership - responsibility of the European political party,
- Authorship - visibility of the European political party and
- Compatibility with national law.

In addition, the Authority published guidance with respect to various specific aspects of European election campaigns of European political parties, such as risk mitigating factors, specific tools or collaborative campaigning.

## 5.2. Citizens outreach

The Authority continuously seeks to upgrade information available to the citizens within its remit, particularly in advance of the European elections period. In preparation for the 2024 European elections year, the Authority explored opportunities to further contribute to making European political parties more visible to Union citizens according to their role pursuant to Article 10(4) of the Treaty on European Union, that states that "*political parties at European level contribute to forming European political awareness and to expressing the will of citizens of the Union*"<sup>24</sup>. Without prejudice to electoral rules of the Member States and the fact that candidates are presented in relation to national political parties, Union law provides that European political parties may engage in their own campaigns in the context of elections to the European Parliament (Article 21 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014).

### 5.2.1. Outreach to voters

In this context, the Authority commissioned an additional feature from a EU-wide platform of vote matching applications, creating a visible and substantive link

<sup>24</sup> Consolidated version of the Treaty on European Union, 26.12.2012, OJ C326/13.

between the 2024 European elections in the Member States concerned and the European political parties.

The main objective of this additional feature is to enhance visibility of European political parties and understanding of their role in light of:

- i. Article 10(4) of the Treaty on European Union which states that they “contribute to forming European political awareness and to expressing the will of citizens of the Union”.
- ii. Article 21 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 that allows for the funding from the general budget of the European Union of campaigns by the European political parties in the context of elections to the European Parliament in which they or their members participate.
- iii. Article 18 paragraph 2a of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 that identifies *inter alia* the logo of the European political party on the EU member party’s website in a clearly visible and user-friendly manner as one prerequisite for Union funding of the respective European political party.

### **5.2.2. Outreach to young citizens including first-time voters**

In the area of citizenship education, the Authority held a EU competition for school classes in the European Union of age 16+ with the following topic: Democracy as part of the EU’s DNA: How does EU democracy relate to citizens’ daily lives? What can we do to make EU democracy as lively and the voices of citizens as relevant as possible?

The submissions from schools of many Member States attest to the continuing interest and motivation of the young generation for European affairs. They were assessed and praised - even beyond the winning class - by an independent jury composed of highly qualified and experienced members from European Parliament, European Commission and academia. The pupils of 1º Bachillerato CC Sociales from IES SEVERO OCHOA (Spain) won the Authority’s school competition and the award ceremony took place in Strasbourg in March 2024.

### **5.2.3 Outreach to practitioners and academics**

The Authority commissioned two studies that are published on its website<sup>25</sup>.

The first study on Provisions of national law affecting European political parties and European political foundations aims at providing a reliable basis for understanding whether, where and how (in addition to the uniform rules of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 and the EU Financial Regulation, a European political party or foundation encounters differing legal constraints across the Union when seeking to generate contributions from their members or donations, or when organising activities (including joint activities with national or local partners) in the Member States.

<sup>25</sup> <https://www.appf.europa.eu/appf/en/other-information/studies>

The second study on Foreign Electoral Interference Affecting EU Democratic Processes aims at identifying and providing a comprehensive picture of the toolbox used by malign non-EU actors to influence and interfere with democratic processes inside the European Union, with a focus on the European electoral context (including the run-up and aftermath of the actual 2024 European elections).

### 5.3. Countering electoral interference

Pursuant to Article 10a of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014, preventing threats of foreign interference in the European Union democracy is a key task of the Authority in the run-up to the 2024 European Parliament elections, in close cooperation with national competent authorities as required by legislation.

#### 5.3.1. Team democratic integrity

To ensure effectiveness of this procedure, the Authority has been proactively reaching out and raising awareness among a network of bodies and institutions relevant to the common defence of European democracy. In particular, the Authority worked with the European Parliament, which provides the secretariat of the Committee of Independent Eminent Persons, to maximise procedural efficiency.

Cooperation on the operational aspects was also strengthened with several other EU stakeholders, including the European External Action Service and the European Data Protection Board. Additionally, the Authority has strengthened its cooperation with Europol by signing a Memorandum of Understanding on strategic information exchange concerning cyber-enabled unlawful interference in EU democracy. This memorandum paves the way for Europol and the Authority to benefit from each other's networks in democratic processes falling under their respective mandates. In particular, the cooperation covers unlawful use of personal data, such as data theft, data leaks or deep-fakes, that are a serious challenge for European democracy if used in an electoral context.

#### 5.3.2. Table top exercise

In order to further boost operational preparedness for the European elections 2024, the Authority organised a table-top exercise with the support and participation of the European Centre of Excellence for Countering Hybrid Threats for the Article 10a interlocutors of the Member States and other relevant experts and stakeholders at European level (the latter participating as observers to the exercise).

The exercise was organised in two parts: the first part to discuss the European elections context and the applicable procedural frameworks and the second part focusing on practical approaches to concrete potential threat scenarios. The event will be followed by further contacts and meetings with the Member State interlocutors building on the previous experiences.

## 5.4. Support activities

The Authority also contributed to the efforts of other stakeholders in the run-up to the European elections. Colleagues actively participated in Parliament's Disinformation Taskforce and supported the competent Committee Secretariats.



## 6. INTERNAL ADMINISTRATION

### 6.1. Human resources

As at 31 December 2023, ten staff members were working at the Authority in addition to the Director, after selection procedures had been carried out within the limits of the current allocation of resources.

In 2023, the Authority continued to face constrained human resources. Except for team leaders, colleagues had to be assigned to two teams simultaneously, to carry out for instance both registration/verification and compliance control tasks. This creates multiple human, managerial and procedural challenges since the corresponding work cycles are partially overlapping, and it is exacerbated whenever off-cycle investigations or procedures occur.

The issue had become even more pressing in the run-up to the 2024 European Parliament elections, due to the specific commitments falling on the Authority directly from Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014, such as the examination of donations that European political parties and foundations have to report on a weekly basis to the Authority according to Article 20(3) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014, and the resulting follow-up actions.

The Authority is therefore much encouraged by the additional appropriations relating to contract staff earmarked in the European Parliament's staff-related budget lines as from 2024, and is finalising corresponding selection and recruitment procedures at the time of writing.

A possible extension of the Authority's mandate (see above, point 3.4) would require additional work streams on verifications, transparency and preventing threats of foreign interference and would impact the Authority's staff needs in that case.

### 6.2. Budget

The European Parliament plays a key role in the Authority's setup in practice, by providing standard administrative support facilities other than human resources, in accordance with Article 6(4) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014. This administrative support materialises in areas as diverse as premises, training services, postage, duty travel, documentation or translation. Where necessary, administrative support facilities have been further specified in agreements between the Authority and competent services of the European Parliament's administration, as foreseen in Article 6(6) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014. As part of this process, in addition to earlier agreements on offices, staff management and training, the Authority concluded in 2022 an agreement with the Internal Audit Service of the

European Parliament and finalised talks on an agreement concerning IT services (the latter agreement was signed into force in January 2023).

Beyond administrative support services supplied by the European Parliament, Article 6(7) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014 sets out that the appropriations for the expenditure of the Authority are provided under a separate Title in the Section for the European Parliament in the general budget of the European Union. Appendix 4 provides a detailed overview of the consumption of the Authority under the Authority's dedicated budget item 500 from 2023.

The Authority also pre-committed from the 2023 budget for payment in 2024 EUR 87 290,85 for meeting activities with the Member States' contact points, EUR 15 000 for information to the public on European political parties, EUR 6 800 for a compliance controls IT tool, EUR 52 111,20 for a EU democracy school competition, EUR 87 270 for a Table Top Exercise on the protection of electoral integrity, EUR 110,72 for catering services at the signature event for a Memorandum of Understanding with Europol, EUR 3 342,12 for office works and EUR 817,08 for other administrative expenses.

Further information on the resources is set out in the Authority's draft budgetary plan for 2025 as published on the Authority's website<sup>26</sup>.

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<sup>26</sup> [https://www.appf.europa.eu/cmsdata/279686/2023%2012%2021%20APPF%20draft%20budget%20plan\\_2025.pdf](https://www.appf.europa.eu/cmsdata/279686/2023%2012%2021%20APPF%20draft%20budget%20plan_2025.pdf)

## 7. DECLARATION OF THE DIRECTOR

I, Pascal Schonard, declare having reasonable assurance that:

- a.** the information contained in this Report presents a true and fair view;
- b.** the resources assigned to the activities described in this Report have been used for their intended purpose and in accordance with the principle of sound financial management; and
- c.** the control procedures put in place give the necessary guarantees concerning the legality and regularity of the underlying transactions.

## 8. CONCLUSION AND OUTLOOK

The Authority contributes to the European Union's common efforts to prepare for fair and free European elections 2024. It will keep up its contribution to ensuring the networked protection of the 2024 European elections from interference but also stand ready for advice to the competent stakeholders for technical advice whenever necessary.

For the post-election period, the Authority will capitalise on the experiences of the preceding European elections, fostering a robust framework for European political entities and advancing the Union's commitment to democratic principles.

In addition, in the post-electoral period, one focus of the Authority will be the scrutiny of electoral finances and practices, based on the guidance provided in the Authority's European Campaign Action Plan ("E-CAP"). The compliance controls by the Authority are based mainly on financial statements to be submitted by the European political parties and foundations by the end of June of the year following the year of reference, in accordance with Article 23 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014. Consequently, looking ahead already further to the year 2025, a particularly work-intense one, a focus for the Authority will be compliance controls relating to 2024, the year of the European elections. The Authority will stand ready to prepare and implement its efforts to enhance the effectiveness of its compliance controls as set out above.

## 9. APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1: List of member parties

APPENDIX 2: List of non-EU political formations related to EU political parties

APPENDIX 3: List of National Contact Points

APPENDIX 4: Budget implementation

# APPENDIX 1: LIST OF MEMBER PARTIES

Please note that the list of full member parties contained herein is indicative of the current political reality of the European political parties across the EU and does not purport to correspond to the member parties that may be claimed specifically as a matter of the representation criterion of Article 3(1)(b) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014. The more restricted number of member parties that are taken into account by the Authority, after verification, specifically as regards the latter criterion can be found on the website [www.appf.europa.eu](http://www.appf.europa.eu).



## EPP - European People's Party

### European People's Party

Seat: Belgium



### Affiliated EU foundation

### Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies ("WMCES")

Seat: Belgium

Full member parties of the European political party	Member State
Die neue Volkspartei (ÖVP)	Austria
Les Engagés	Belgium
Christen-Democratisch en Vlaams	Belgium
Demokrati za silna Bălgarija	Bulgaria
Dvizhenie "Bulgariya na grazhdanite"	Bulgaria
GERB	Bulgaria
Sayuz na demokratichnite sili	Bulgaria
Hrvatska demokratska zajednica	Croatia
Croatian Demochristian Party	Croatia
Dimokratikós Sinagermós	Cyprus
TOP 09	Czechia
Křesťanská a demokratická unie – Československá strana lidová	Czechia
Det Konservative Folkeparti	Denmark
KristenDemokraterne	Denmark
Pro Patria - Isamaa	Estonia
Suomen Kristillisdemokraati	Finland
Kansallinen Kokoomus	Finland
Les Républicains	France
Christlich Demokratische Union Deutschlands	Germany

Full member parties of the European political party	Member State
Christlich-Soziale Union in Bayern	Germany
Nea Demokratia	Greece
Kereszténydemokrata Néppárt	Hungary
Fine Gael	Ireland
Partito Autonomista Trentino Tirolese	Italy
Alternativa Popolare	Italy
Unione di Centro	Italy
Forza Italia	Italy
Popolari per l'Italia	Italy
Südtiroler Volkspartei	Italy
Vienotība	Latvia
Tėvynės sąjunga – Lietuvos krikščionys demokratai	Lithuania
Chrėschtlech Sozial Vollekspartei	Luxembourg
Partit Nazzjonalista	Malta
Christen-Democratisch Appèl	Netherlands
Polskie Stronnictwo Ludowe	Poland
Platforma Obywatelska	Poland
Centro Democrático e Social - Partido Popular	Portugal
Partido Social Demócrata	Portugal
Romániai Magyar Demokrata Szövetség / Uniunea Democrată Maghiară din România	Romania
Partidul Național Liberal	Romania
Partidul Mișcarea Populară	Romania
SPOLU – občianska demokracia	Slovakia
Szövetség - Aliancia	Slovakia
Kresťanskodemokratické hnutie	Slovakia
OBYČAJNÍ LUDIA a nezávislé osobnosti	Slovakia
Slovenska Ljudska Stranka	Slovenia
Nova Slovenija krščanski demokrati	Slovenia
Slovenska demokratska stranka	Slovenia
Partido Popular	Spain
Kristdemokraterna	Sweden

## PES - Party of European Socialists



### Party of European Socialists

Seat: Belgium



### Affiliated EU foundation

#### Foundation for European Progressive Studies ("FEPS")

Seat: Belgium

Full member parties of the European political party	Member State
Sozialdemokratische Partei Österreichs	Austria
Parti Socialiste	Belgium
Vooruit (formerly Socialistische Partij Anders)	Belgium
Bulgarska Sotsialisticheska Partiya	Bulgaria
Socijaldemokratska Partija Hrvatske	Croatia
Kinima Sosialdimokraton - EDEK	Cyprus
Sociální demokracie – SOCDEM	Czechia
Socialdemokratiet	Denmark
Sotsiaaldemokraatlik Erakond	Estonia
Suomen Sosialidemokraattinen Puolue	Finland
Parti Socialiste	France
Sozialdemokratische Partei Deutschlands	Germany
Panellinio Sosialistiko Kinima	Greece
Demokratikus Koalíció	Hungary
Magyar Szocialista Párt	Hungary
The Labour Party	Ireland
Partito Socialista Italiano	Italy
Partito Democratico	Italy
Sociāldemokrātiskā Partija "Saskaņa"	Latvia
Lietuvos socialdemokratų partija	Lithuania
Lëtzebuenger Sozialistesche Aarbechterpartei	Luxembourg
Partit Laburista	Malta
Partij van de Arbeid	Netherlands
Nowa Lewica	Poland
Partido Socialista	Portugal
Partidul Social Democrat	Romania
SMER-sociálna demokracia	Slovakia
Socialni Demokrati	Slovenia
Partido Socialista Obrero Español	Spain
Sveriges Socialdemokratiska Arbetareparti	Sweden



# ALDE- Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe Party

## Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe Party



Seat: Belgium



## Affiliated EU foundation

### European Liberal Forum ("ELF")

Seat: Belgium

Full member parties of the European political party	Member State
NEOS	Austria
Mouvement Réformateur	Belgium
Open Vlaamse Liberalen en Democraten	Belgium
Dvizhenie za prava i svobodi	Bulgaria
Centar	Croatia
Istarski demokratski sabor	Croatia
FOKUS	Croatia
Dimokratiki Parataxi	Cyprus
ANO	Czechia
Det Radikale Venstre	Denmark
Venstre Danmarks Liberale Parti	Denmark
Eesti Keskerakond	Estonia
Eesti Reformierakond	Estonia
Suomen Keskusta	Finland
Svenska Folkpartiet	Finland
Parti radical	France
Union des Démocrates et Indépendants	France
Freie Demokratische Partei	Germany
Momentum Mozgalom	Hungary
Liberálisok-Magyar Liberális Párt	Hungary
Fianna Fáil-An Páirtí Poblachtánach	Ireland
Azione	Italy
Liberali Democratici Europei	Italy
Più Europa	Italy
Radicali Italiani	Italy
Kustība Par!	Latvia
Latvijas Attīstībai	Latvia
Lietuvos Respublikos liberalų sąjūdis	Lithuania
Laisvės Partija	Lithuania
Demokratesch Partei / Parti Démocratique	Luxembourg
Democraten 66	Netherlands
Volkspartij voor Vrijheid en Democratie	Netherlands
Iniciativa Liberal	Portugal
Uniunea Salvați România	Romania
Progresívne Slovensko	Slovakia
Ciudadanos-Partido de la Ciudadanía	Spain
Centerpartiet	Sweden
Liberalerna	Sweden

## EDP - European Democratic Party



### European Democratic Party

Seat: Belgium

### Affiliated EU foundation

#### Institute of European Democrats ("IED")

Seat: Belgium

Full member parties of the European political party	Member State
Bürgerforum Tirol–Liste Fritz	Austria
Narodne stranke-Reformisti	Croatia
SENÁTOR 21	Czechia
Mouvement Démocrate	France
Freie Wähler	Germany
Enosi Kentroon	Greece
Új Kezdet	Hungary
Italia Viva	Italy
L'Italia c'è	Italy
50plus	Netherlands
Stronnictwo Demokratyczne	Poland
Juntos pelo Povo	Portugal
Demokratska stranka upokojencev Slovenije	Slovenia
Coalición Canaria	Spain
Compromiso por Galicia	Spain
Euzko Alderdi Jeltzalea	Spain

## EGP - European Green Party



### European Green Party

Seat: Belgium



### Affiliated EU foundation

#### Green European Foundation ("GEF")

Seat: Luxembourg

Full member parties of the European political party	Member State
Die Grünen	Austria
Ecolo	Belgium
Groen	Belgium
Zeleno Dvizhenie	Bulgaria
Movement of Ecologists-Citizens' Cooperation	Cyprus
Zelení	Czechia
Socialistisk Folkeparti	Denmark
Eestimaa Erakond Rohelised	Estonia
Vihreät-De Gröna	Finland
Europe Écologie-Les Verts	France
Bündnis 90/Die Grünen	Germany
Oikologoi-Prasinoi	Greece
Magyarország Zöld Pártja	Hungary
Comhaontas Glas	Ireland
Europa Verde-Verdi	Italy
Verdi-Grüne-Vërc	Italy
déi gréng	Luxembourg
Alternattiva Demokratika	Malta
GroenLinks	Netherlands
Partia Zieloni	Poland
Partido Ecologista–Os Verdes	Portugal
Partidul Verde	Romania
SMS Zeleni Evrope	Slovenia
Verdes EQUO	Spain
Esquerra Verda	Spain
Miljöpartiet de gröna	Sweden

## EFA - European Free Alliance

### European Free Alliance



Seat: Belgium



### Affiliated EU foundation

#### Coppieters Foundation

*\*(formerly Centre Maurits Coppieters)*

Seat: Belgium

Full member parties of the European political party	Member State
Enotna Lista	Austria
Nieuw-Vlaamse Alliantie	Belgium
Omo Ilinden Pirin	Bulgaria
Moravské zemské hnutí	Czechia
Schleswigsche Partei	Denmark
Ålands Framtid	Finland
Union Démocratique Bretonne	France
Partit Occitan (PÒc)	France
Unser Land	France
Femu a Corsica	France
Partitu di a Nazione Corsa	France
Unitat Catalana	France
Mouvement Région Savoie	France
Bayernpartei	Germany
Südschleswigscher Wählerverband	Germany
Dostluk Eşitlik ve Barış Partisi	Greece
Siciliani Liberi	Italy
Süd-Tiroler Freiheit	Italy
Comitato Libertà Toscana	Italy
Patto per l'Autonomia	Italy
Alliance valdôtaine	Italy
Union Valdôtaine	Italy
Fryske Nasjonale Partij	Netherlands
Erdélyi Magyar Néppárt	Romania
Oljka Party	Slovenia
Bloque Nacionalista Galego	Spain
Esquerra Republicana de Catalunya	Spain
Eusko Alkartasuna	Spain
Més-Compromís	Spain
Més per Menorca	Spain
Nueva Canarias	Spain
Partit Socialista de Mallorca - Entesa Nacionalista	Spain
Andalucía Por Sí	Spain

## IDP/ID Party - Identité et Démocratie Parti



### Identité et Démocratie Parti

*\*(formerly Mouvement pour une Europe des Nations et des Libertés)*

Seat: France

### Affiliated EU foundation



### Association pour l'Identité et Démocratie Fondation ("IDF"/"ID Foundation")

*\*(formerly Fondation pour une Europe des Nations et des Libertés)*

Seat: France

Full member parties of the European political party	Member State
Freiheitliche Partei Österreichs	Austria
Vlaams Belang	Belgium
Alternative für Deutschland	Germany
Svoboda a přímá demokracie	Czechia
Eesti Konservatiivne Rahvaerakond	Estonia
Rassemblement National	France
Nea Dexia	Greece
Lega Nord	Italy
Lega per Salvini Premier	Italy
Partij voor de Vrijheid	Netherlands
Chega	Portugal
SME Rodina	Slovakia

## European Left - Party of the European Left

### Party of the European Left



Seat: Belgium



### Affiliated EU foundation

#### Transform Europe ("TE")

Seat: Belgium

Full member parties of the European political party	Member State
Kommunistische Partei Österreichs	Austria
Communistes de Wallonie-Bruxelles	Belgium
Balgarskata levitsa / Bulgarian Left	Bulgaria
Radnička fronta	Croatia
Levice	Czechia
Enhedslisten-De Rød-Grønne	Denmark
Eestimaa Ühendatud Vasakpartei	Estonia
Suomen Kommunistinen Puolue	Finland
Gauche Républicaine et Socialiste	France
Parti communiste français	France
Die Linke	Germany
Synaspismós Rizospastikís Aristerás-SYRIZA	Greece
Magyarországi Munkáspárt 2006-Európai Baloldal	Hungary
Partito della Rifondazione Comunista	Italy
Déi Lénk	Luxembourg
Bloco Esquerda	Portugal
Partidul Socialist Român	Romania
Levica	Slovenia
Partido Comunista de España	Spain
Esquerda Unida i Alternativa	Spain
Izquierda Unida	Spain

## ECRP/ECR Party - European Conservatives and Reformists Party



### European Conservatives and Reformists Party

*\*(formerly Alliance of Conservatives and Reformists in Europe)*

Seat: Belgium



### Affiliated EU foundation

**New Direction – The Foundation for European Reform**  
**(“New Direction”)**

Seat: Belgium

Full member parties of the European political party	Member State
Bulgarsko Natsionalno Dvizhenie	Bulgaria
Croatian Sovereignist Party Hrvatski suverenisti	Croatia
Občanská demokratická strana	Czechia
Wir Bürger	Germany
Fratelli d'Italia	Italy
Nacionālā apvienība „Visu Latvijai!” – „Tēvzemei un Brīvībai”	Latvia
Akcja Wyborcza Polaków na Litwie-Związek Chrześcijańskich Rodzin	Lithuania
Alternativ Demokratesch Reformpartei	Luxembourg
Prawo i Sprawiedliwosc	Poland
Alternativa Dreaptă	Romania
Sloboda a Solidarita	Slovakia
VOX	Spain
Sverigedemokraterna	Sweden

## ECPM - European Christian Political Movement



### European Christian Political Movement

Seat: Netherlands



### Affiliated EU foundation

#### Sallux

Seat: Netherlands

Full member parties of the European political party	Member State
Christliche Partei Österreichs	Austria
La voie du peuple	France
Familienpartei Deutschlands	Germany
Bündnis C–Christen für Deutschland	Germany
Comhaontas Dhínit an Duine	Ireland
IDEA—Identità e azione Popolo e Libertà	Italy
Suverena Vara	Latvia
Lietuvos krikščionių demokratų partija	Lithuania
ABBA Party	Malta
ChristenUnie	Netherlands
Staatkundig Gereformeerde Partij	Netherlands
Prawica Rzeczypospolitej	Poland
Unia Polityki Realnej	Poland
Partido Popular Monárquico	Portugal
Partidul Național Țărănesc Creștin Democrat	Romania
Uniunea Democratica a Slovacilor si Cehilor din Romania	Romania
Kresťanska únia	Slovakia
Contigo Más	Spain
Valores	Spain



## APENDIX 2: LIST OF NON-EU POLITICAL FORMATIONS RELATED TO EU POLITICAL PARTIES

Please note that non-EU formations are not “member parties” within the meaning of Article 2 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014. The Authority hereinafter nonetheless presents the current political reality of these relations for transparency purposes, to the extent known on the basis of material available to the Authority.



### EPP - European People's Party

#### European People's Party

Seat: Belgium

COUNTRY	POLITICAL ENTITY	TYPE OF RELATION
Armenia	Republican Party of Armenia - REP P	Observer Member
Armenia	Heritage Party Armenia - HER	Observer Member
Belarus	United Civic Party of Belarus - UCP	Observer Member
Belarus	Belarusian Christian Democracy - BCD	Observer Member
Belarus	The Movement For Freedom - MFF	Observer Member
Bosnia and Herzegovina	HDZ 1990	Observer Member
Georgia	United National Movement - UNM	Observer Member
Georgia	European Georgia – Movement for Liberty	Observer Member
Kosovo	Democratic League of Kosovo - LDK	Observer Member
Moldova	Partidul Liberal Democrat Din Moldova - PLDM	Observer Member
Moldova	Platforma Demnitate și Adevăr / Platforma DA	Observer Member
Norway	Kristelig Folkeparti - KrF	Observer Member
San Marino	Partito Democratico Cristiano Sammarinese	Observer Member
Ukraine	Samopomich Union - Self-Reliance	Observer Member
Lebanon	Lebanese Forces Party	Partner
Lebanon	The Kataeb Party – Lebanese Social Democratic Party (LSDP)	Partner
Morocco	Istiqlal Party	Partner
Morocco	Rassemblement National des Indépendants - RNI	Partner
Albania	Partia Demokratike e Shqipërisë - PDSH	Associate Member
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Croatian Democratic Union of Bosnia and Herzegovina	Associate member

COUNTRY	POLITICAL ENTITY	TYPE OF RELATION
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Partija Demokratskog Progresa	Associate Member
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Stranka Demokratske Akcije	Associate Member
Iceland	Independence Party	Associate Member
Moldova	Party of Action and Solidarity	Associate Member
Montenegro	Bošnjačka stranka - BS	Associate Member
Norway	Hoyre - Conservative Party	Associate Member
North Macedonia	Internal Macedonian Revolutionary Organisation / Democratic Party for Macedonian National Unity - VMRO-DPMNE	Associate Member
Serbia	Alliance of Hungarians in Vojvodina	Associate Member
Serbia	Serbian Progressive Party - SNS	Associate Member
Switzerland	Die Mitte / Le Centre / Alleanza del Centro / Allianz dal Center	Associate Member
Ukraine	Batkivshcyna - Motherland Party	Associate Member
Ukraine	European Solidarity	Associate Member
Ukraine	Ukrainian Democratic Alliance for Reforms	Associate Member
Switzerland	Die Mitte / Le Centre / Alleanza del Centro / Allianz dal Center	Associate Member
Ukraine	Batkivshcyna - Motherland Party	Associate Member
Ukraine	European Solidarity	Associate Member
Ukraine	Ukrainian Democratic Alliance for Reforms	Associate Member



## PES - Party of European Socialists

### Party of European Socialists

Seat: Belgium

COUNTRY	POLITICAL ENTITY	TYPE OF RELATION
Norway	Det Norske Arbeiderparti	Full rights
United Kingdom	Labour Party	Full rights
United Kingdom	Social Democratic and Labour Party	Full rights
Albania	Partia Socialiste e Shqipërisë	Associate Member
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Socijaldemokratska Partija Bosne i Hercegovine	Associate Member
Iceland	Samfylkingin	Associate Member
Moldova	Partidul democrat din Moldova	Associate Member
Montenegro	Socijaldemokratska Partija Crne Gore	Associate Member
Montenegro	Demokratska Partija Socijalista Crne Gore	Associate Member
North Macedonia	Socijaldemokratski Sojuz na Makedonija	Associate Member
Serbia	Demokratska stranka	Associate Member
Switzerland	Parti Socialiste Suisse	Associate Member
Türkiye	Cumhuriyet Halk Partisi	Associate Member
Türkiye	Halkların Demokratik Partisi	Associate Member
Andorra	Partit Socialdemòcrata	Observer Member
Armenia	Armenian Revolutionary Federation	Observer Member
Belarus	BSDP Hramada	Observer Member
Belarus	BSDP Narodnaya Hramada	Observer Member
Egypt	Egyptian Social Democratic Party	Observer Member
Israel	Meretz	Observer Member
Israel	Avodah	Observer Member
Kosovo	Levizja Vetevendosje	Observer Member
Morocco	Socialist Union of Popular Forces	Observer Member
Palestine	Fatah	Observer Member
San Marino	Partito dei Socialisti e dei Democratici	Observer Member
Serbia	Stranka slobode i pravde	Observer Member
Tunisia	Forum Démocratique pour le Travail et les Libertés	Observer Member

## ALDE- Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe Party



### Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe Party

Seat: Belgium

COUNTRY	POLITICAL ENTITY	TYPE OF RELATION
Andorra	Partit Liberal d'Andorra	Full rights
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Naša Stranka	Full rights
Georgia	Lelo for Georgia	Full rights
Georgia	Strategy Aghmashenebeli	Full rights
Iceland	Viðreisn	Full rights
Kosovo	Aleanca Kosova E Re	Full rights
Kosovo	Partia Demokratike E Kosovës	Full rights
Moldova	Coaliția Pentru Unitate și Bunăstare	Full rights
Montenegro	Liberalna Partija Crne Gore	Full rights
North Macedonia	Liberalno-Demokratska Partija	Full rights
Norway	Venstre	Full rights
Russia	YABLOKO	Full rights
Serbia	Pokret Slobodnih Građana	Full rights
Switzerland	Freisinnig-Demokratische Partei der Schweiz	Full rights
Switzerland	Grünliberale Schweiz	Full rights
Ukraine	European Party of Ukraine	Full rights
Ukraine	GOLOS	Full rights
Ukraine	Sluga Narodu	Full rights
United Kingdom	Liberal Democrats	Full rights
Andorra	Acció Per Andorra	Affiliate member
Armenia	Armenian National Congress	Affiliate Member
Armenia	Bright Armenia	Affiliate Member
Azerbaijan	Musavat Party	Affiliate Member
Georgia	Free Democrats	Affiliate Member
Georgia	Republican Party of Georgia	Affiliate Member
Georgia	Girchi-More Freedom	Affiliate Member
Gibraltar	Liberal Party of Gibraltar	Affiliate Member
Moldova	Partidul Liberal	Affiliate Member
Russia	Partiya Narodnoy Svobody	Affiliate Member
Ukraine	Civic Position	Affiliate Member
Ukraine	Syla Lyudey	Affiliate Member
United Kingdom	Alliance Party of Northern Ireland	Affiliate Member



## EDP - European Democratic Party

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### European Democratic Party

Seat: Belgium

COUNTRY	POLITICAL ENTITY	TYPE OF RELATION
San Marino	Repubblica Futura	Observer Member



## EGP - European Green Party

### European Green Party

Seat: Belgium

COUNTRY	POLITICAL ENTITY	TYPE OF RELATION
Albania	Partia e Gjelber "Te Gjelbrit"	Full rights
Georgia	Sak'art'velos mtsvanet'a partia	Full rights
Moldova	Partidul Verde Ecologist	Full rights
Montenegro	Građanski Pokret URA	Full rights
North Macedonia	Demokratska Obnova na Makedonija / DOM	Full rights
Norway	Miljøpartiet De Grønne	Full rights
Switzerland	Grüne / Les Vert.e.s	Full rights
Ukraine	Partija Zelenykh Ukrainy / PZU	Full rights
United Kingdom	Green Party of England and Wales	Full rights
United Kingdom	Scottish Green Party	Full rights
Azerbaijan	Azərbaycan Yaşillər Partiyası	Associate Member
Belarus	Bielaruskaja Partyja "Zialonye"	Associate Member
Russia	Зеленая Россия / Green Russia	Associate Member
Türkiye	Yeşil Sol Parti	Candidate Member

Seat: Belgium

COUNTRY	POLITICAL ENTITY	TYPE OF RELATION
Azerbaijan	Democratic Party of Artsakh – DPA	Full rights
Serbia	Liga Socijaldemokrata Vojvodine – LSV	Full rights
United Kingdom	Mebyon Kernow – MK	Full rights
United Kingdom	Plaid Cymru	Full rights
United Kingdom	Scottish National Party – SNP	Full rights
United Kingdom	Yorkshire Party – YP	Full rights



## IDP/ID Party - Identité et Démocratie Parti

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### **Identité et Démocratie Parti**

*\*(formerly Mouvement pour une Europe des Nations et des Libertés)*

Seat: France

COUNTRY	POLITICAL ENTITY	TYPE OF RELATION
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IDP has not notified any relations to non-EU formations.

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## ECRP/ECR Party - European Conservatives and Reformists Party

### European Conservatives and Reformists Party

*\*(formerly Alliance of Conservatives and Reformists in Europe)*

Seat: Belgium

COUNTRY	POLITICAL ENTITY	TYPE OF RELATION
Albania	Republican Party of Albania	Participation without voting rights
Belarus	Popular Front Party	Participation without voting rights
Israel	Likud Movement	Participation without voting rights
North Macedonia	Internal Macedonian Revolutionary Organisation	Participation without voting rights
Serbia	Enough is Enough	Participation without voting rights
United Kingdom	Ulster Unionist Party	Participation without voting rights
United States of America	Republican Party	Participation without voting rights

## Party of the European Left

Seat: Belgium

COUNTRY	POLITICAL ENTITY	TYPE OF RELATION
Belarus	Belarusian Party of the Left "Fair World"	Full rights
Moldova	Communist Party of Moldova	Full rights
Switzerland	Labour Party of Switzerland	Full rights
Türkiye	SOL Parti	Full rights
United Kingdom	Left Unity	Full rights
Serbia	Solidarnost	Partner
United Kingdom	Socialists for Independence, Scotland	Partner
United Kingdom	Democratic Left of Scotland	Partner



## ECPM - European Christian Political Movement

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### European Christian Political Movement

Seat: Netherlands

COUNTRY	POLITICAL ENTITY	TYPE OF RELATION
North Macedonia	INTEGRA - Macedonian Conservative Party (ИНТЕГРА)	Full rights
Switzerland	Evangelical People's Party	Full rights
United Kingdom	Christian Peoples Alliance	Full rights

## APPENDIX 3: LIST OF NATIONAL CONTACT POINTS

Member State	General National Contact Points in accordance with Article 2(10) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014	National Contact Points communicated in the context of Article 10a of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014
Austria	Bundeskanzleramt (Federal Chancellery)	Austrian Data Protection Authority (Datenschutzbehörde) and Federal Ministry of the Interior, Unit Cybersecurity and Technical Infrastructure
Belgium	SPF Affaires étrangères/FOD Buitenlandse Zaken (Federal Public Service Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation)	Autorité de protection des données and Centre pour la Cyber sécurité
Bulgaria	Ministry of Interior - Protection of the European Union Financial Interests Directorate (AFCOS)	Commission for Personal Data Protection
Croatia	Ministry of Public Administration (MINISTRY OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (UPRAVA ZA POLITIČKI SUSTAV I OPĆU UPRAVU; Služba za udruge i zaklade)	Croatian Personal Data Protection Agency
Cyprus	Ministry of Interior	Office of The Commissioner for Personal Data Protection
Czechia	Ministry of Finance	The Office for Personal Data Protection and National Cyber and Information Security Agency
Denmark	The Ministry of the Interior and Housing (Office for Democracy)	The Danish Data Protection Agency (Datatilsynet)
Estonia	Ministry of Justice (Public Law Department)	Estonian Data Protection Inspectorate and Estonian State Electoral Office
Finland	Ministry of Justice (Department for Democracy and Public Law)	Office of the Data Protection Ombudsman
France	Commission Nationale des Comptes de Campagne et des Financements Politiques	Commission Nationale de l'Informatique et des Libertés (CNIL)
Germany	Federal Ministry of the Interior, Building and Community (Bundesministerium des Innern und für Heimat)	The Federal Commissioner for Data Protection and Freedom of Information
Greece	Ministry of Interior (Elections Department)	Hellenic Data Protection Authority

Member State	General National Contact Points in accordance with Article 2(10) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014	National Contact Points communicated in the context of Article 10a of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014
Hungary	<i>No contact point notified</i>	<i>No contact point notified</i>
Italy	Commissione di garanzia degli statuti e per la trasparenza e il controllo dei rendiconti dei partiti politici	Garante per la protezione dei dati personali and Agency for National Cyber security (ACN)
Ireland	Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government	Data Protection Commission Ireland
Latvia	Corruption Prevention and Combating Bureau	Data State Inspectorate of the Republic of Latvia (Prevention Division)
Lithuania	Central Electoral Commission of the Republic of Lithuania (Political Parties and Political Campaigns Funding Control Unit)	State Data Protection Inspectorate (Supervisory Division)
Luxembourg	Ministère d'État (Service juridique)	Commission nationale pour la protection des données
Malta	Office of the Electoral Commission (Electoral Office)	Information and Data Protection Commissioner (Data Protection Supervisory Authority)
Netherlands	Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations (Directorate Democracy Governance)	Dutch Data Protection Authority (Autoriteit Persoonsgegevens)
Poland	National Election Committee (PKW)	Personal Data Protection Office (UODO)
Portugal	Entidade das Contas e Financiamentos Políticos – Tribunal Constitucional (Entity for Political Financing and Accounts – Portuguese Constitutional Court)	Comissão Nacional de Proteção de Dados Centro Nacional de Cibersegurança
Romania	Permanent Electoral Authority	National Supervisory Authority for the Processing of Personal Data (AUTORITATEA NAȚIONALĂ DE SUPRAVEGHERE A PRELUCRĂRII DATELOR CU CARACTER PERSONAL) National Cyber Security Directorate of Romania (DNSC)

Member State	General National Contact Points in accordance with Article 2(10) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014	National Contact Points communicated in the context of Article 10a of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014
Slovenia	Agencija Republike Slovenije za javnopravne evidence in storitve (Agency of the Republic of Slovenia for Public Legal Records and Related Services)	Information Commissioner of the Republic of Slovenia (Informacijski pooblaščenec Republike Slovenije) and Government Information Security Office (Urad Vlade Republike Slovenije za informacijsko varnost)
Slovakia	Ministry of Interior (Department for Election, Referendum and Political Parties)	Office for Personal Data Protection of the Slovak Republic (Úrad na ochranu osobných údajov Slovenskej republiky)
Spain	El Tribunal De Cuentas De España (Department of Political Parties in the Spanish Court of Audit)	Agencia Española de Protección De Datos (Spanish Data Protection Agency)
Sweden	Kammarkollegiet (The Legal, Financial and Administrative Services Agency)	Swedish Authority for Privacy Protection and Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB) - Computer Security Incident Response Team and Swedish Election Authority

## APPENDIX 4: BUDGET IMPLEMENTATION

Pursuant to Article 6(7) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1141/2014, the appropriations for the expenditure of the Authority are provided under a separate Title in the Section for the European Parliament in the general budget of the European Union. According to that provision, those appropriations must be sufficient to ensure the full and independent operation of the Authority.

### 2023 BUDGET IMPLEMENTATION BREAKDOWN

#### Consumed in 2023 from 2023 budget

National Contact Point conference	EUR 10 776,98
Study on foreign interference	EUR 15 000,00
Administrative expenses 2023	EUR 182,92
EU school competition 2023 expenses	EUR 568,80
<b>Total</b>	<b>EUR 26 528,70</b>

