

## **Mission statement**

### **ANTI-FRAUD POLICY**

The Managing Authority for the Interreg-IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme Hungary-Serbia is committed to maintain high legal, ethical and moral standards, to adhere to the principles of integrity, objectivity and honesty and wishes to be seen as opposed to fraud and corruption in the way that it conducts its business. All members of staff of the Programme's management bodies share this commitment.

The objective of this policy is to promote a culture which deters fraudulent activity and to facilitate the prevention and detection of fraud and the development of procedures which will aid in the investigation of fraud and related offences and which will ensure that such cases are dealt with timely and appropriately.

The term fraud is commonly used to describe a wide range of misconducts including theft, corruption, embezzlement, bribery, forgery, misrepresentation, collusion, money laundering and concealment of material facts. It often involves the use of deception to make a personal gain for oneself, a connected person or a third party, or a loss for another – intention is the key element that distinguishes fraud from irregularity. Fraud does not just have a potential financial impact, but it can cause damage to the reputation of an organisation responsible for managing funds effectively and efficiently.

This is of particular importance for a public organisation responsible for the management of EU funds. Corruption is the abuse of power for private gain. Conflict of interests exists where the impartial and objective exercise of the official functions of a person are compromised for reasons involving family, emotional life, political or national affinity, economic interest or any other shared interest.

The Managing Authority has procedures in place for reporting fraud, both internally and to the European Anti-Fraud Office and contacts the OLAF Coordination Office of the National Tax and Customs Office as well.

The Managing Authority has a zero tolerance policy to fraud and corruption, and has in place a control system that is designed to prevent and detect, as far as is practicable, acts of fraud and correct their impact, should they occur.

Frauds can be reported to OLAF under the following link: [https://ec.europa.eu/anti-fraud/contacts/fraud-reporting-form\\_hu](https://ec.europa.eu/anti-fraud/contacts/fraud-reporting-form_hu).

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