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OLAF concludes investigation concerning Janusz Wojciechowski

On 27 September 2019, OLAF concluded its investigation concerning possible abuse of travel and subsistence expenses by Mr Janusz Wojciechowski, former Member of the European Parliament, current Member of the European Court of Auditors and Polish Commissioner Candidate.

OLAF concluded the case with recommendations to the European Parliament for both the recovery of €11,243 from Mr Wojciechowski and to further strengthen the administrative rules relating to the reimbursement of travel expenses and payment of subsistence allowances. No disciplinary or judicial recommendations have been made concerning Mr Wojciechowski in person.

On 20 July 2016, OLAF opened an investigation concerning possible abuse of travel and subsistence expenses by Mr Wojciechowski.

Working in close cooperation with the European Parliament, OLAF collected and examined a significant sample of Mr Wojciechowski's reimbursement claims and the corresponding supporting documents. A series of inconsistencies were found in the reimbursement claims. As a result, OLAF established that an amount of €11,243 had been unduly paid by the European Parliament to Mr Wojciechowski based on his travel declarations and attestations of attendance.

OLAF notes that the sum in question has already been paid in full to the European Parliament by Mr Wojciechowski.

OLAF mission, mandate and competences:

OLAF's mission is to detect, investigate and stop fraud with EU funds.

OLAF fulfils its mission by:

- carrying out independent investigations into fraud and corruption involving EU funds, so as to ensure that all EU taxpayers' money reaches projects that can create jobs and growth in Europe;
- contributing to strengthening citizens' trust in the EU Institutions by investigating serious misconduct by EU staff and members of the EU Institutions;
- developing a sound EU anti-fraud policy.

In its independent investigative function, OLAF can investigate matters relating to fraud, corruption and other offences affecting the EU financial interests concerning:

- all EU expenditure: the main spending categories are Structural Funds, agricultural policy and rural development funds, direct expenditure and external aid;
- some areas of EU revenue, mainly customs duties;
- suspicions of serious misconduct by EU staff and members of the EU institutions.

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