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Mr. Mart Võrklaev Minister of Finance

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Dear Minister,

On 30 January 2024, the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union held a joint hearing of all candidates for the location of the European Anti-Money Laundering Authority AMLA. With this first ever joint hearing, we have come a decisive step closer to our common goal in the fight against money laundering and terrorist financing. The joint decision of the European Parliament and Council on the location of the future European Anti-Money Laundering Authority is now imminent.

The German government is fully committed to supporting the EU project in establishing a European anti-money laundering authority. A strong AMLA with a European perspective is the only way to ensure the uniform application of the substantive legal framework in the EU and for the joint efforts to combat money laundering to be swiftly and effectively raised to the next level.

In Frankfurt, AMLA would be based in the largest and most important financial centre in continental Europe. Here it could perform its core tasks, including the direct supervision of Europe's largest providers of financial services, efficiently and sustainably due to its proximity to key institutions. Furthermore, Frankfurt is able to offer AMLA and its future employees unrivalled accessibility, a first-class digital infrastructure, a large and highly qualified talent pool, and an excellent quality of life. But it is not only Frankfurt that offers all the prerequisites for AMLA; Germany as a whole is ideally qualified to host the new anti-money laundering authority. We take the fight against money laundering very seriously and have stepped up our AML efforts considerably in recent years. The main arguments in favour of Frankfurt are summarized in the attached leaflet as well as on the website www.amla-frankfurt.eu.

Against this background, I am convinced that Frankfurt is an ideal location for AMLA in order for Europe to achieve its goal of becoming a global leader in the field of financial integrity and the fight against financial crime.

I would deeply appreciate your support for Frankfurt as AMLA's future home. Let us continue to maintain and strengthen the dialogue between our governments on this matter.

Yours sincerely,

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