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EPPO/LCK/2026/553

12 October 2026

Ms Anastassia Kovalenko-Kõlvart  
Chairwoman  
Anti-Corruption Select Committee of the Riigikogu  
Estonia

*Delivered electronically*

Dear Chairwoman,

In reply to the wish expressed on 9 October 2026 by the Anti-corruption Select Committee of the Riigikogu to meet with the European Delegated Prosecutor leading the criminal investigation concerning the Centre for Defence Investment and Datasel SRL, please allow me to inform you that the only hearing in front of a national Parliament foreseen under Article 7 of Council Regulation (EU) 2017/1939 of 12 October 2017 implementing enhanced cooperation on the establishment of the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO) is for the European Chief Prosecutor, who "may be replaced by one of the Deputy Chief Prosecutors", and can only be an occasion for exchanges on the "general activities of the EPPO".

As a general rule, the EPPO does neither comment on nor disclose details about its ongoing investigations. This is not to endanger the possible ongoing procedures and their outcome. Whenever we can say something about any of our investigations, we do so proactively. Please let me also remind you that our competence is mandatory, which means that we must follow up on any lead within our remit. Be assured that we do so diligently.

The role of the EPPO is to investigate, prosecute and bring to judgment fraud affecting the financial interests of the European Union as defined in Directive (EU) 2017/1371 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 July 2017 ('the PIF Directive). Our competence includes fraud on the side of EU budget's expenditure, when the potential damage is estimated at over ten thousand (10,000) Euro, as well as fraud affecting the EU budget's revenue, such as cross-border VAT fraud, when the potential damage is estimated above ten million (10,000,000) Euro. In exercising its competence, the EPPO scrupulously complies with the cornerstone principle of the rule of law that judicial authorities respect their legal mandate along with its limitations.

Finally, let me reassure you that the EPPO fully respects the presumption of innocence and is not guided by any political consideration in the accomplishment of its mission. In all our investigations, we have the obligation to seek all types of evidence, inculpatory as well as exculpatory, either *motu proprio* or at the request of the defense.

Yours sincerely,

Laura Kövesi  
European Chief Prosecutor

**Cc.:** Andrés Ritter, Deputy European Chief Prosecutor  
Kristel Siitam-Nyiri, European Prosecutor