

**Question for oral answer O-000063/2021
to the Commission**

Rule 136

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on behalf of the PPE Group

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Subject: Increased efforts to fight money laundering

European Court of Auditors Special Report (ECA SR) 13/2021 revealed substantial evidence of institutional fragmentation and poor co-ordination at EU level of actions to prevent money laundering and terrorism financing, as well as in taking action where a risk has been identified.

1. Beyond the legislative package for the revision of the EU anti-money laundering and countering financing of terrorism architecture (AML/CFT) put forward by the Commission on 20 July, can the Commission provide information on the measures planned to address the shortcomings identified in ECA SR 13/2021? What would be the concrete time-line for the new measures be? How is the Commission ensuring that Member States in the meanwhile effectively implement the measures already transposed, and that national authorities are effectively equipped and staffed? How is the Commission ensuring adequate staffing and resources of the anti-money laundering authority (AMLA)? Why is its creation only scheduled for 2023?
2. How will coordination and cooperation with the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO), Europol and the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) be organised under AMLA's mandate? How does the Commission plan to significantly strengthen the capacity of Europol?
3. How will the Commission ensure more effective implementation of current EU legislation in order to resolve the problems identified? When is the Commission planning to start infringement procedures against Member States that have failed to effectively transpose the third, fourth or fifth Anti-Money Laundering Directives?
4. How does the Commission intend to ensure that the commissioned Council of Europe study for the assessment of the effective implementation of AML legislation in the Member States avoids analytical capture by obliged entities and supervisory authorities? Will the Commission ensure that the views of law enforcement agencies, academics, journalists and NGOs in the field are heard when the study is being prepared?
5. Will the Commission use its influence in the European Banking Authority (EBA) so that the EBA uses its powers to systematically go after breaches of Union law in the field of AML/CFT?

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Lapses: 28.12.2021