

EN  
E-012934/2015  
Answer given by Vice-President Georgieva  
on behalf of the Commission  
(17.12.2015)

Pursuant to Article 121 of the Financial Regulation, actions financed by grants can only intend to achieve European Union policy objectives, which include the respect of the Charter of Fundamental Rights which prohibits any discrimination on any ground such sex, race, colour, ethnic or social origin, genetic features, language, religion or belief, political or any other opinion, membership of a national minority, property, birth, disability, age or sexual orientation.

The Commission takes seriously any allegations of non-compliance with EU law and the Charter of Fundamental Rights, and will examine the report's claims accordingly.

Should any cases be confirmed, the Commission would apply the relevant procedures of the Financial Regulation which may lead to administrative sanctions, such as the exclusion from EU funding and the imposition of financial penalties. This would also have other consequences such as the termination of grant agreements and the recovery of disbursed funds.