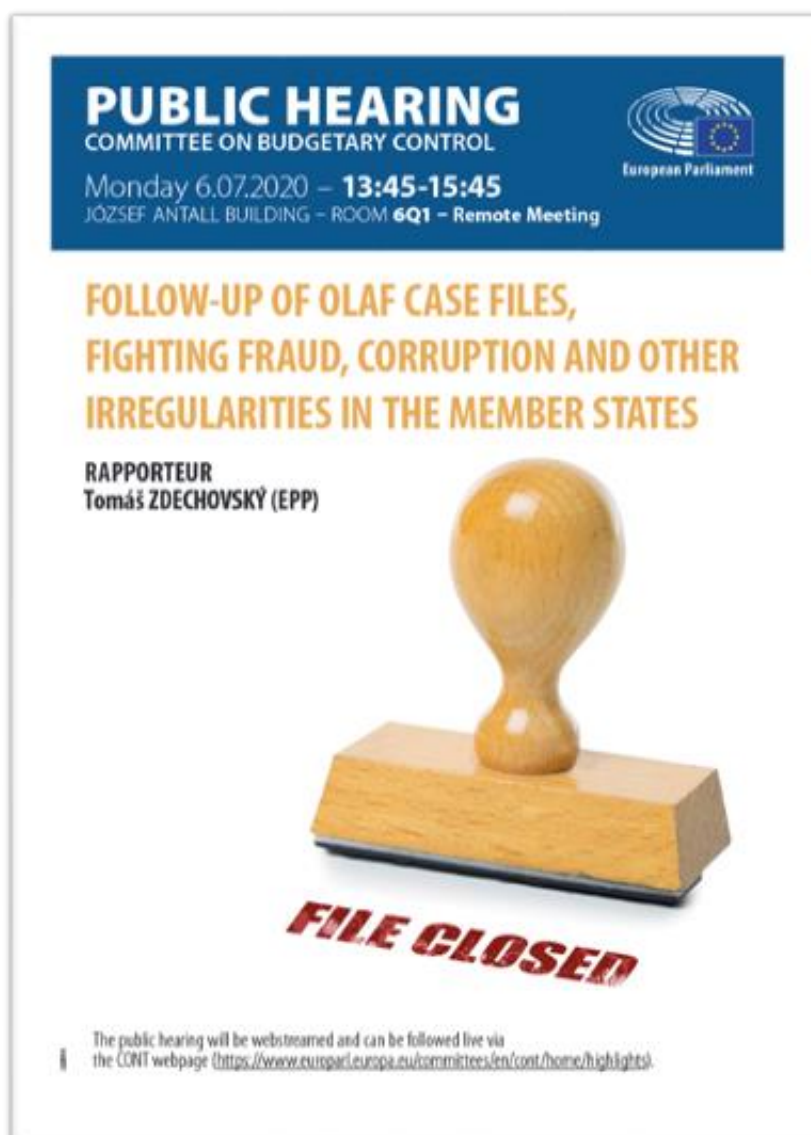


CONT Committee

Public Hearing on 6 July 2020

- Speakers' Biographies -



PUBLIC HEARING
COMMITTEE ON BUDGETARY CONTROL

Monday 6.07.2020 – 13:45-15:45
JÓZSEF ANTALL BUILDING – ROOM 6Q1 – Remote Meeting

**FOLLOW-UP OF OLAF CASE FILES,
FIGHTING FRAUD, CORRUPTION AND OTHER
IRREGULARITIES IN THE MEMBER STATES**

RAPPORTEUR
Tomáš ZDECHOVSKÝ (EPP)

FILE CLOSED

The public hearing will be webstreamed and can be followed live via the CONT webpage (<https://www.eurparl.europa.eu/committees/en/cont/home/highlights>).

Martin LEUVERING, Federal Ministry of Finance (Germany)

Head of Unit, European Policy Department, Unit for the Protection of the EU Financial Interest, EU Financial Control and Fraud Prevention

Martin Leuving, born in March 1966, is the Head of Unit of the German Federal Ministry of Finance's unit on the Protection of EU Financial Interests, EU Financial Control and Fraud Prevention. Prior to taking over his current function seven years ago, he served as a desk officer and deputy head of unit in different units of both the Directorates-General for the National Budget and for European Affairs.

Martin Leuving holds a degree in law from the Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-University Bonn. He clerked at the Higher Regional Court of the Land Schleswig-Holstein before beginning his distinguished career at the German Federal Ministry of Finance in 1995.



Crin Nicu BOLOGA, National Anticorruption Directorate (Romania)

Chief Prosecutor

Crin Nicu BOLOGA is the Chief Prosecutor of the National Anticorruption Directorate (DNA), which is the specialized prosecution structure of Romania in combating high-level corruption.

He was appointed in this position on 20.02.2020. Prior to this position, Mr. Bologa, having a professional experience of almost 25 years within the Prosecution Service of Romania, held other senior positions, such as Chief Prosecutor of the Prosecution Office attached to the Tribunal Salaj and Chief Prosecutor of the Territorial Service of DNA Cluj.

He has an extensive experience and expertise in investigating criminal offenses of corruption, tax evasion and other economic-financial offenses, in pleading cases in court, but also in coordinating other prosecutors' work, as well as in training activities. During 2013-2015, based on his expertise in combating criminality in the field of public procurement, he delivered training sessions for judges, prosecutors and police officers from Romania and Moldova, within an EU funded project.



Vincenzo AMENDOLA , Guardia di Finanza (Italy)

Brigadier General, Commander of Special Unit on Public Expenditures and Fight Against Community Frauds

Brigadier General Vincenzo Amendola is 53 years old and started his career in the Guardia di Finanza 33 years ago when he attended the Guardia di Finanza Academy.

Ha had a rapid and distinguished career in the various ranks, becoming Brigadier General in 2017.

He has assumed important assignments, mainly of operational nature, in all the activity sectors of the Guardia di Finanza as Economic Financial Police, throughout of the national territory, as Commander of important units or officer responsible for relevant sectors, also in highly specialist areas (for example, he served at the Savings Protection Group under the Special Currency Police Unit).

He conducted specific activities regarding the topics to be discussed in the hearing:

- internationally, as Head of the Office for International Cooperation and Relations with Foreign Counterparts at the General Headquarters – 2nd Department,
- and specifically, in the protection of the financial interests of the EU when he previously served in his junior ranks, and since October 2019, when he was appointed Commander of the Special Unit for Public Spending and EU Fraud.

Every year he represents the Guardia di Finanza in numerous Working Groups at the European Union Council, OECD and the Financial Action Task Force (FATF).

He is a Member of the *Committee for the fight against EU fraud* under the Department for European Policies of the Council of Ministers Presidency.

He holds a Law Degree and has attended the 2-year higher specialization course at the *Tax Police School (today called Economic Financial Police School)*.

He is a lecturer at the Guardia di Finanza's Training Institutes, and he also lectures as an expert at the annual II-Level University Masters course in "*Corporate Criminal Law*" at an important Italian University.

He is an Officer of the Order of Merit of the Italian Republic, was awarded the Maurician Medal for 10 years of military career, and decorated with both the Medal of Merit for Extensive Command and the Cross for Length of Service in the Guardia di Finanza.



Ville ITÄLÄ, European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF)

Director-General

Ville Itälä is the Director-General of OLAF, the European Anti-Fraud Office.

Mr Itälä has a background in law and law enforcement, holding a Master in Law from Turku University, and a Master in Law with court training from Vehmaa District Court. He was acting Police Commissioner and acting Town Prosecutor of Naantali, Finland from 1985 to 1988, before practising law in a firm until 1995, when he was elected Member of the Finnish Parliament.

Over the 9 years of his Parliamentary career he served as Chair of the National Coalition Party and as well as Vice-Chair of the International Democrat Union, was appointed Minister of the Interior and Deputy Prime Minister of Finland.

In 2004, he was elected into the European Parliament, where he was an active member of the Committees on Budgets and on Transport and Tourism, respectively, as well as Deputy Coordinator of the Committee on Budgetary Control. Between 2004 and 2006, Mr Itälä was also Vice-Chair of the European People's Party and European Democrats' Group in the European Parliament.

Prior to his appointment as Director-General of OLAF in August 2018, Mr Itälä was a Member of the European Court of Auditors (2012-2018).



Jan INGHELDRAM, Court of Justice of the European Union

Director, Legal Adviser on Administrative Matters

Born in Antwerp (Belgium) in 1964, Dr. Jan F. H. Ingheletram, LL.M., has a law degree from the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (Belgium, 1987), an LL.M. degree from the University of Virginia (USA, 1989) and a doctorate from the Rijksuniversiteit Groningen (The Netherlands, 2011).

After having practised as an Attorney at the Brussels Bar in the law offices of De Bandt, Van Hecke & Lagae (now Linklaters), he worked, from 1992, as an Administrator and later as a Principal Administrator in the Legal Service of the European Court of Auditors.

From 2001, he was seconded to the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) where he worked as a référendaire successively for Advocate General Jean Mischo, for Judge C. W. A. Timmermans and for Judge Sacha Prechal.

Since December 2015, he is Director and Legal Adviser on Administrative Matters of the CJEU. In that capacity, he is responsible for advising the CJEU on any legal issue relating to its functioning as an EU institution and for representing the institution in court procedures in which it is a party.

He is the author of several publications on OLAF, the European Public Prosecutor's Office, EU Finances, the European Court of Auditors and the CJEU. His doctoral dissertation on "legal and institutional aspects of the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) with a look forward to a European Public Prosecutor's Office" was published as a book (Europa Law Publishing, 2011).



Laura Codruța KÖVESI, European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO)

Chief European Public Prosecutor

Laura Codruța Kövesi is the former chief prosecutor of Romania's National Anticorruption Directorate (DNA in Romanian), a position she held from 2013 to 9 July 2018. Prior to this, between 2006 and 2012 Laura Kövesi was the Prosecutor General of Romania, attached to the High Court of Cassation and Justice. She was the first woman and the youngest Prosecutor General in Romania's history.

In October 2019, Laura Kövesi was confirmed by the European Parliament and the Council as the first European Chief Prosecutor to head the recently created European Public Prosecutor Office (EPPO), EU Regulation (EU) 2017/1939.