Deliverable 3

The protection of the EU financial interests between administrative and criminal tools: the role of OLAF and EPPO (Article submission)

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BETKOSOL Better Knowledge for

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Section I. Abstract

The deliverables 3 contains the article submitted to a international peer review journal which is based on the results of the first part of the BETKOSOL research.

The system of protection of EU financial interest has been profoundly changed, through the establishment of the European Public Prosecutor Office (EPPO) and the reform of the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF). Do the recently approved reforms address the shortcomings of the system? What type of interaction is established between administrative and criminal tools? What type of cooperation is deemed to take place between EPPO and OLAF and how will the EPPO and the national prosecutors manage their coexistence?

The article argues that both administrative and criminal tools are necessary for the protection of EU financial interests and that the mechanisms of cooperation between OLAF and EPPO are well equipped to foster a functioning collaboration between the two bodies. However, certain criticisms still emerge, both, on the one hand, in the functioning of OLAF (in particular concerning the guarantees for the private parties), and, on the other hand, as for cooperation of EPPO with national prosecutors.

The article was submitted to an international peer review journal.

Section II. Acknowledgment

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Prof. Maurizio Bellacosa and Prof Maurizia De Bellis are the authors of the article submitted to an international peer review journal.