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OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
On:	16 June 2025
To:	Delegations

Subject:	European Court of Auditors' special report No 11/2025: Transparency of EU funding to NGOs: Despite progress, the overview is still not reliable - <i>Council conclusions (16 June 2025)</i>
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Delegations will find in the annex the Council conclusions on the European Court of Auditors' special report No 11/2025 entitled "Transparency of EU funding to NGOs: Despite progress, the overview is still not reliable", approved by the Council (Transport, Telecommunications and Energy) in its 4103rd meeting held on 16 June 2025.

COUNCIL CONCLUSIONS

**on special report No 11/2025 by the European Court of Auditors: Transparency of EU
funding to NGOs: Despite progress, the overview is still not reliable**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION:

1. WELCOMES the special report No 11/2025 by the European Court of Auditors (hereafter referred to as "the Court") and the replies of the Commission to the report;
2. HIGHLIGHTS that transparency of EU funding granted to NGOs is key to accountability;
3. TAKES NOTE of the findings of the Court's report, in particular that:
 - there are certain issues of consistency, reliability or completeness in the identification and registration of entities as NGOs,
 - the lack of a reliable cross-sectoral overview of EU financing for NGOs restrains transparency, and does not provide with an overall insight,
 - compliance with EU values is not proactively checked;
4. WELCOMES the fact that the Commission has accepted all of the Court's recommendations, although two only partially, and BROADLY SHARES the replies of the Commission to the findings and recommendations included in the Court's report;

5. Considering the Court's recommendations, INVITES the Commission, while adhering to the principle of proportionality, to:

- improve guidance on classifying NGOs, in particular by further clarifying the provisions of the new Financial Regulation¹ to be applied in implementation,
- improve the quality of information in the Financial Transparency System ensuring completeness, regular updates, and include information on second-level recipients, where available in accordance with the applicable legal framework,
- explore the feasibility of the current systems and further develop them, in view of strengthening the verification of EU values,
- accelerate implementation timelines of the Court's recommendations as feasible, with the aim of addressing current fragmentation of public information.

¹ Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 September 2024 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union (recast) (OJ L, 2024/2509, 26.9.2024, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/2509/oj>).