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## Panel presentation

*Is the protection of the EU's financial interests impacted by an integrated strategy for preventing corrupt and fraudulent behavior in the context of European Funds?*

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# Protecting EU's Financial Interests

- Prevention is key — not just detection
- Fraud and corruption are interconnected



- Need for a coherent and coordinated approach



# National Strategies: A Mixed Landscape

STRATEGY TYPE	NO. OF MEMBER STATES
National Anti-Fraud Strategy (NAFS)	10
National Anti-Corruption Strategy (NACS)	19
Both NAFS and NACS	9

- No clear correlation between having a NAFS and higher fraud detection rates\*



However:

- All good performers have a NAFS (CAP & Cohesion)
- Most non-NAFS Member States are bad performers (CAP & Cohesion)

NAFS could help target weaknesses in detection and reporting



# Benefits of a National Anti-Fraud Strategy

 **Cooperation** – involve all relevant stakeholders

 **Completeness** – cover all stages of the anti-fraud cycle

 **Coherence**

- effective framework for risk assessment, common objectives, agreed action plan, system for monitoring the implementation
- address cross-cutting issues (e.g., digitalisation) consistently

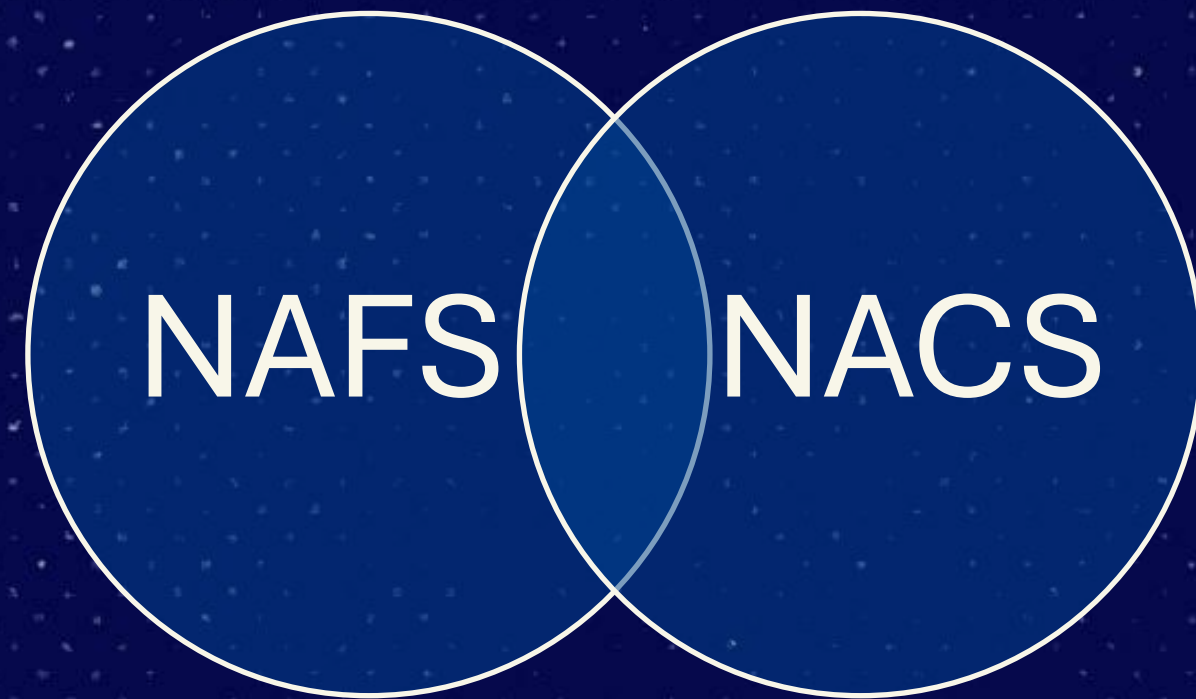
 **Significance** – a coordinated approach of all stakeholders elevates the importance of PFIU on the political agenda



Not a box-ticking exercise — implementation and results are what count



# Toward an Integrated Approach



Need for coordination / integration



! corruption may be instrumental to fraud

! when detecting serious irregularities - consider intentionality and possible involvement of corrupt officials



Success depends on genuine implementation, real cooperation, and a shared culture of integrity.

Integrated Approach = Stronger Protection of EU Financial Interests



# Thank You!

[https://anti-fraud.ec.europa.eu/index\\_en](https://anti-fraud.ec.europa.eu/index_en)

