

In Brussels, 9th April 2026

Dear deputy director general,

I am writing to you in connection with recent public reporting and the broader question of compliance with Article 61 of the Financial Regulation in relation to the Agrofert Group and current Czech Prime Minister Andrej Babiš. There are ongoing and serious concerns that the issue of Mr Babiš's conflict of interest might negatively affect other Czech companies and entities seeking EU funding.

As you know, the issue of Mr Babiš's conflict of interest has been the subject of serious scrutiny for several years. The European Commission's previous audit findings, as reflected also in European Parliament documents, concluded that Mr Babiš exercised influence over the allocation of EU subsidies to Agrofert despite the trust arrangement then in place.

Recent information published in the Czech media¹ suggests that, although Czech authorities were considering asking the Commission explicitly whether the current trust structure effectively resolves the conflict-of-interest concerns under EU law, this question was ultimately not included in the final communication sent to the Commission.

In light of the importance of this matter for the protection of the EU budget and for public trust in the integrity of EU fund management, I would be grateful if the Commission services could clarify:

1. whether, on the basis of the information currently available to the Commission, the present trust arrangement concerning Mr Babiš and Agrofert is considered sufficient to remove the conflict of interest concerns previously identified under Article 61 of the Financial Regulation;
2. whether the Commission services consider that Mr Babiš may still retain, directly or indirectly, a capacity to influence decisions relevant to EU funds or to benefit from such decisions;
3. whether the Commission intends to seek further information from the Czech authorities in order to assess whether the current arrangement adequately protects the Union's financial interests.

I would be grateful if your directorate could indicate clearly whether the current structure is regarded as effectively resolving the conflict of interest previously identified, or whether serious concerns remain.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Jan Farský

Member of the European Parliament

¹ Article titled „Úředníci chtěli v Bruselu zjišťovat, zda Babiš dodržel zákon. Dostali stopku“ (*Government officials wanted to check with Brussels whether Babiš was following the letter of the law. They were stopped.*) - <https://www.seznamzpravy.cz/clanek/domaci-kauzu-urednici-chteli-v-bruselu-zjistovat-zda-babis-dodrzel-zakon-dostali-stopku-302725>