ENE-002367/2021Answer given by Mr Hahnon behalf of the European Commission(12.8.2021)

The Commission will do its utmost to ensure that any amount due from government entities or Member States is effectively paid to final recipients or beneficiaries, unless the decision adopting the measures provides otherwise in accordance with the requirements of Article 5, paragraph 2, of the Regulation on a general regime of conditionality for the protection of the Union budget (‘the Regulation’)[[1]](#footnote-2). This may entail, for instance, the application of financial corrections in line with applicable Union law[[2]](#footnote-3). The Commission may also decide to open infringement proceedings against the Member State concerned to ensure compliance with the Member State’s obligation enshrined in Article 5(2) of the Regulation.

The Commission will provide information and guidance for the benefit of final recipients or beneficiaries via a website or an internet portal, as well as adequate tools for final recipients or beneficiaries to inform the Commission about potential breaches of the payment obligations of Member States towards them following the adoption of measures under the Regulation.

The Commission is currently preparing guidelines to provide clarification on certain aspects of the application of the Regulation. The draft guidelines have been shared with the European Parliament and Member States. Comments can be submitted until end of August 2021.

1. Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2020/2092 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2020 on a general regime of conditionality for the protection of the Union budget, OJ L 433I , 22.12.2020, p. 1. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. See recital 19 of the Regulation. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)