

GENERAL COURT

Judgment of the General Court of 4 September 2019 — Lithuania v Commission

(Affaire T-603/17) ⁽¹⁾

(EAGF and EAFRD — Expenditure excluded from financing — Regulation (EC) No 1698/2005 — Axis 4 ‘Leader’ — Regulation (EU) No 65/2011 — Administrative checks — Obligation to implement a suitable system for evaluating the reasonableness of the costs — Contribution in kind in the form of unpaid voluntary work — Contribution in kind in the form of a contribution of immovable property — On-the-spot checks — Presence of documents supporting payment claims — Implementation of operations financed in accordance with the rules on public procurement)

(2019/C 357/35)

Language of the case: Lithuanian

Parties

Applicant: Republic of Lithuania (represented: initially by D. Kriaučiūnas, R. Krasuckaitė, R. Dzikovič and M. Palionis, then by R. Krasuckaitė, R. Dzikovič, M. Palionis, I. Javičienė and T. Lozoraitis and lastly R. Dzikovič, M. Palionis, I. Javičienė and T. Lozoraitis, acting as Agents)

Defendant: European Commission (represented by: J. Aquilina and J. Jokubauskaitė, acting as Agents)

Intervener in support of the applicant: Czech Republic (represented by: M. Smolek, J. Pavliš and J. Vlácil, acting as Agents)

Re:

Application under Article 263 TFEU for annulment of Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2017/1144 of 26 June 2017 excluding from European Union financing certain expenditure incurred by the Member States under the European Agricultural Guarantee Fund (EAGF) and under the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) (OJ 2017 L 165, p. 37), in so far as it excludes certain expenditure incurred by the Republic of Lithuania.

Operative part of the judgment

The Court:

1. Dismisses the action;
2. Orders the Republic of Lithuania to bear its own costs and pay those incurred by the European Commission;
3. Orders the Czech Republic to bear its own costs.

⁽¹⁾ OJ C 357, 23.10.2017.