



To:

the President of the Balearic
Government

the Board of the Balearic
Parliament

Dear Madam/Sir,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Network of European Integrity and Whistleblowing Authorities (NEIWA)' Board.

The mission of the Network is to coordinate the efforts of all members towards the strengthening of the protection of reporting persons, through the exchange of knowledge and practices, upholding and promoting recognised international standards for the protection of reporting persons as well as integrity in work relations according to EU Directive 1937/2019.

As you know, the European Union is currently working on a EU Anti-corruption Strategy to be developed in consultation with the European Parliament and the Council, to maximise the impact and coherence of EU actions, including a [new Directive on combating corruption](#), which foresees in article 4 the setting up of prevention and control specialised anti-corruption bodies and ensuring adequate resources and training for authorities responsible for preventing and fighting corruption.

In this framework, it has come to the attention of the Network's Board that one of our members, the Office for the Prevention and the Fight against Corruption of the Balearic Islands (OAIB,) could be undergoing a process of closure in the near future.

We would like to express our concern about this information and convey the message -in line with NEIWA's goals- of the importance that reporting persons are protected with the same high standards throughout the European Union. Furthermore, and considering that, according to the information shared within the Network by its members, currently no central protection authority has been established at the central level in Spain, institutions like the Balearic office are the main reference for protecting the reporting persons covered by the EU Directive 1937/2019 and the national legislation transposing this Directive and therefore might play a crucial role for maintaining the existing protection standards.

Our Board is open to provide you with further information on NEIWA's mission and the role that its members play towards the consolidation and strengthening of integrity infrastructures.

Rome, November 14, 2023

Respectfully,
Laura Valli

(Chair of NEIWA)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Laura Valli', written in a cursive style.