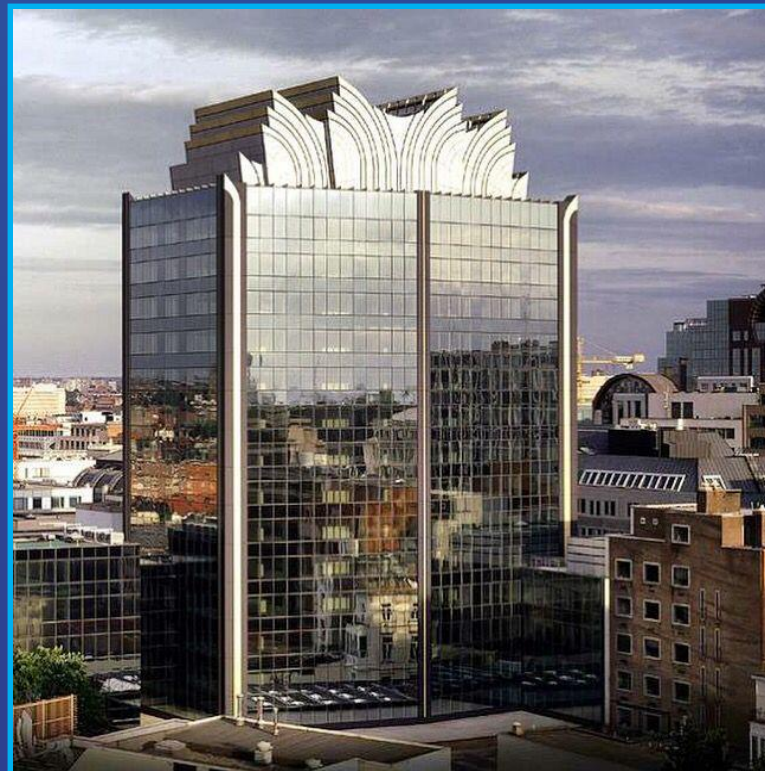


FIGHT AGAINST ILLEGAL IMPORT OF HYDROFLUOROCARBONS IN THE EU



What's OLAF?

The European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) is the **only EU investigative body** mandated to detect, investigate and work towards stopping fraud involving EU funds or resources.



OLAF investigative tools

- Investigation activities
 - Interviews (take statements)
 - Inspections of premises
 - On-the-spot checks
 - Forensic operations
 - Investigative missions in non-EU countries
 - Access to documents, computer data, budgetary, and accounting documents
 - Taking and checking of samples

+ Coordination with Member States



OLAF investigative tools

- Coordination with Member States
- Coordination with non-EU countries:
 - Administrative cooperation arrangements concluded with more than 80 non-EU countries, including **Turkey**
 - 3 OLAF liaison officers: China, Ukraine and United Arab Emirates



Outcome of OLAF investigations

- OLAF Director-General issues recommendations
 - Judicial
 - Disciplinary
 - Financial
 - Administrative
- Final report transmitted to the EU institutions, bodies, agencies or MSs
- Monitoring of the implementation
 - Criminal investigations
 - Prosecutions and convictions
 - Financial recoveries
 - Disciplinary measures



Investigations targeting counterfeit goods or genuine goods dangerous for the safety, security and environment

On 15 September 2020, 32 on-going investigations covered products dangerous to the health:

- Alcoholic beverages (rum, brandy, whiskey, wines...)
- Food products
- Daily care products (i.e. razor blades, shampoo...etc)
- Household products (i.e. detergent)
- Mechanical parts (airbags, chainsaws, bearings,)
- Medical devices
- Medicines
- Refrigerant gas
- Pesticides
- Toys



ON-GOING INVESTIGATION IN THE EU



MAIN ISSUES

- **Diversion of refrigerant gas in non-refillable (disposal) cylinders (banned in the EU) from the transit regime;**
- **Import of refrigerant gas by non-registered companies and without quota;**
- **Import of refrigerant gas exceeding the quota allocated;**
- **Multiplication of shell companies with same Beneficial owners (“Smurfing”);**