

OLAF: European Parliament demands clarification over phone tapes

The European Parliament today asked for clarifications over the illegal phone tapes by the EU's anti-fraud office OLAF during its investigation into the Dalli case. A large majority of 638 members today asked OLAF to provide the legal basis that authorises it to assist in and prepare the recording of telephone conversations of private persons without their prior consent. The amendment was tabled by the EPP Group's coordinator in the budgetary control committee, Inge Gräßle MEP (EPP/DE).

"OLAF Director-General Kessler must explain who ordered the telephone recordings, and why", she said.

Gräßle was disappointed that the amendments to strengthen OLAF's supervisory committee were narrowly rejected in another vote today on the reform of the OLAF regulation.

"A narrow majority led by the Social Democrats voted against amendments strengthening the supervisory committee, aimed at making sure basic rights are not infringed. Having withdrawn their support out of fear of the Council, they now carry the responsibility for any undesirable developments in the future", Gräßle said.

[For further information](#)

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