

**Report of the Financial Officer on the 2024 financial year
on the occasion of the General Assembly on 22 July 2025**

In the 2024 financial year of the European Forum Alpbach, income of EUR 4,566,985 was offset by expenses of EUR 5,119,783. The European Forum Alpbach therefore recorded a loss of 552,798 euros in 2024. One reason for this - very briefly summarised and explained in more detail below - was the overall decrease in income compared to the previous period, but an overall increase in expenses.

The loss is also explained in more detail below.

The association's equity as of 31 December 2024 amounts to EUR 379,359.

Explanation of income:

The largest source of income remains income from sponsorship for the forum, which fell in 2024 compared to the previous year (PY): 1,866,380 euros (previous year: 2,185,240 euros).

In contrast, funding from private and public bodies and income from grants increased and totalled EUR 1,442,077 (previous year: EUR 1,231,490), meaning a total of EUR 3,308,457 (previous year: EUR 3,416,730) from sponsorship and funding. Further income resulted from the scholarship programme in the amount of EUR 328,560, income from the offsetting of services with the foundation in the amount of EUR 303,160 as well as membership fees and income from other services. Another source of income was the participation fees for the Forum totalling EUR 525,082 (previous year: EUR 718,663). The significant reduction is partly due to the cancellation of the technology talks.

Notes to the balance sheet: The high receivables can be described as recoverable, as the majority of these receivables from 31 December 2024 were settled in the weeks thereafter. The EFA Foundation's advance payment of EUR 395,000 for services provided by the EFA Association in 2025 forms the largest part of the liabilities.

Explanation of expenditure:

Expenditure for the realisation of the Forum amounted to EUR 1,689,249 (previous year: EUR 1,792,120); despite inflation-related cost increases, it was possible to reduce expenses here. Other operating expenses totalled EUR 1,002,049 (previous year: EUR 1,184,514), which represents a reduction in costs compared to the previous year. Total operating expenses therefore totalled 2,754,948.31

The increase in personnel expenses to 2,364,916 euros (compared to 2,014,397 euros in the previous year) corresponds to the inflation adjustment of 8% from 2023 to 2024 on the one hand and an increase in local staff and selective salary adjustments on the other.

Explanation of the loss:

The loss of 550,000 euros is also the result of a conscious decision: ERSTE Foundation decided, among other things, to provide funding totalling 1.5 million euros for 2024 and 2025 for the European Forum Alpbach in its entirety, of which 770,000 euros were intended for 2024. In the

case of the grant to the association, this funding would have been subject to KEST and would therefore have resulted in a tax payment of a further 230,000 euros, leaving only 500,000 euros for 2025. To avoid this, the President, Finance Officer and Secretary General, in consultation with former President Andreas Treichl, decided to ask ERSTE Foundation to donate the EUR 770,000 to the EFA Foundation. In this case, no KEST is payable. This means that the result of the EFA Association is EUR 770,000 lower, while that of the EFA Foundation is correspondingly better. The funding for 2025 can be higher by the saved KEST of 230,000 euros and the EFA Foundation can thus build up reserves to cover additional expenses.

This decision was also made in light of the fact that the Executive Board and management are currently examining a shift of tasks between the two entities, the association and the foundation, in order to reduce the complexity of financial management and optimise the tax situation, as well as the fact that the Executive Board and management are currently working on a comprehensive measure to reduce the tax burden.

A surplus for the association is planned for 2025, which should enable the formation of new reserves.

(Note: All amounts have been commercially rounded).