

27 May 2026

ESMA Publishes its 2025 Corporate Reporting Enforcement and Regulatory Activities Report

1.0 Background

On 07 May 2026, the European Securities and Markets Authority (“ESMA”) published the [2025 Corporate Reporting Enforcement and Regulatory Activities Report](#) (hereinafter referred to as the “Report”).¹

The Report provides an overview of the supervision and enforcement of corporate reporting carried out during 2025 by national enforcers within the European Economic Area (“EEA”) and by ESMA. The report provides key messages to enhance future financial and sustainability reports, including an assessment of how issuers are complying with International Financial Reporting Standards (“IFRS”), European Sustainability Reporting Standards (“ESRS”), and digital reporting obligations. Furthermore, the Report outlines ESMA’s and national enforcers’ activities across the core areas of corporate reporting, promoting market transparency and accountability. The Report also details enforcers’ examinations of a sample of issuers to assess their compliance with the financial and sustainability reporting priorities set out in the 2024 European Common Enforcement Priorities (“ECEP”).²

2.0 Key Figures

The following section provides a summary of the main activities highlighted by ESMA:

Enforcement of Financial Reporting

In 2025, enforcers examined the financial statements of **628 issuers**, representing **16%** of all EEA issuers applying IFRS. Following these reviews, enforcers took actions in **41%** of the ex-post examinations performed, reflecting an increase compared to the previous year. The main areas where enforcers took action related to the following areas:

- Financial instruments;
- Presentation of financial statements;
- Operating segments; and

¹ ESMA Report, 2025 Corporate reporting enforcement and regulatory activities, ESMA32-2064178921-9413, dated 07 May 2026.

² ESMA Public Statement, European common enforcement priorities for 2024 annual financial reports, ESMA32-193237008-8369, dated 24 October 2024.

- Impairment of non-financial assets.

Enforcement of Alternative Performance Measures (“APMs”) Reporting

During 2025, enforcers reviewed **434 management reports** to assess compliance with [ESMA’s Guidelines on Alternative Performance Measures \(“APMs”\)](#)³, covering **11% of IFRS-listed issuers in the EU**. These examinations resulted in enforcement actions affecting **69 issuers**, corresponding to an action rate of **16%**. The most common deficiencies identified related to the definitions, reconciliations, explanations on the use of APMs, and labels.

Enforcement of Sustainability Reporting

Issuers in those Member States where the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (“CSRD”) had not yet been transposed were still subject to the Non-Financial Reporting Directive (“NFRD”) requirements. In 2025, enforcers carried out **367 CSRD and NFRD** content examinations of sustainability statements, of which **109** issuers were subject to enforcement actions, corresponding to a **30%** action rate. Most enforcement actions on ESRS statements focused on ESRS E1 climate-related disclosures and ESRS 2 general disclosures. For NFRD statements, most actions related to taxonomy requirements for non-financial undertakings and non-financial key performance indicators.

Enforcement of European Single Electronic Format (“ESEF”) Reporting

In 2025, enforcers examined the Annual Financial Reports (“AFRs”) of **2,995 issuers** to check compliance of the ESEF filing. As a result, enforcers took **266 actions**, corresponding to a **9%** action rate. These actions were related to late ESEF submissions, as well as reminding issuers to make the ESEF AFR available on the issuer’s website. Enforcers also urged issuers to ensure that the ESEF AFR is treated and published as the official, authoritative version. When providing a PDF AFR in addition to the ESEF AFR, issuers must publish a disclaimer clearly stating that the PDF is not the official report compliant with the Transparency Directive.

Furthermore, enforcers examined the financial statements of **613 issuers** required to submit ESEF AFRs in iXBRL format and took action against **80 issuers**, corresponding to a **13%** action rate. Most actions related to the correctness and completeness of *markup* requirements, correct signs and numerical scaling, and naming concerns for extension taxonomy elements.

³ ESMA Final Report, ESMA Guidelines on Alternative Performance Measures, ESMA/2015/1057, dated 30 June 2015.

3.0 Next Steps

Issuers, auditors, and other corporate reporting professionals are encouraged to review the full Report. The Authority also draws attention to ESMA's [2025 ECEP Statement](#),⁴ which outlines enforcement priorities for 2025 annual financial reports. This Statement was previously brought to the attention of issuers through the Authority's Circular dated [23 October 2025](#).

4.0 Contacts

Should you have any queries relating to the above, kindly contact the Authority on transparency@mfsa.mt.

⁴ ESMA Public Statement, European common enforcement priorities for 2025 corporate reporting, ESMA32-2064178921-9254, dated 14 October 2025.