



To:  
European Commission  
DG for Communications Networks, Content and Technology  
Unit C.3 – Microelectronics and Photonics Industry  
Head of Unit: Mr. Pierre CHASTANET  
Project Officer: Mr. Markus KORN  
Via Funding & Tenders Portal

From:  
Free Silicon Foundation (I) ETS  
Dr. -Ing. Luca Alloatti  
President

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**Subject: Urgent – Withholding of Interim Payment and Disputed Status in GoIT,  
Grant Agreement No. 101070660**

April 9 2025

We are writing to bring to your attention a serious and unresolved issue concerning our participation in the GoIT project, Grant Agreement No. 101070660.

Although we remain a **named beneficiary under the Grant Agreement**, the project Coordinator has unilaterally decided to **exclude us from payment distribution**, citing an alleged breach of the Consortium Agreement. This action was taken **without formal amendment, without WIPO mediation, and without EC-initiated termination or suspension**. It directly contradicts the terms of both the Consortium Agreement and the Grant Agreement, which explicitly foresee structured resolution of disputes.

We are aware of the following communication from the Project Officer to the Coordinator on October 23 2024:

*“We are about to process the payment of period 1. Given that FSI has to leave the consortium and one CSIC group stopped working it would not be wise to distribute funds that you receive now to them, as given the high percentage of pre-financing anyway quite a good portion of money has to be recovered from them. Whilst this should not be a big deal in the case of CSIC, I see trouble ahead with FSI that had no money at the outset of the project.*

*Given that there is the risk that the upcoming review meeting might have a negative outcome, it might also be wise that you request a suspension of the project until the end of the year so as to avoid that resources are being spent that will be rejected as ineligible.”*

It is our understanding that, following this message, the Coordinator has withheld our share of the interim payment. Meanwhile, we continue to deliver on our project responsibilities — including ongoing license development and the organization of the Free Silicon Conference 2025 — and have accumulated over **€10,000 in unreimbursed project costs**.

We therefore request the Commission to:

1. **Clarify our official status** within the consortium under the Grant Agreement;
2. Confirm whether the Coordinator is authorized to withhold our share of the payments in the absence of a formal amendment or decision;
3. Ensure that funds legally owed to us under the Grant Agreement are disbursed appropriately.

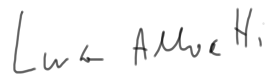
We stress that **the current situation is financially unsustainable for us**. If this issue is not resolved **within 10 working days from the date of this letter**, we will be **forced to suspend project activities** in order to protect the financial stability of our organization. This suspension would unfortunately impact deliverables, including the licensing activities and the organization of the Free Silicon Conference 2025.

As you may recall, our organization has made transparency a founding principle of this project — including the **public release of our full proposal**, a rare practice in our field. In line with this commitment, we are preparing to issue a **public statement outlining the current circumstances**, including the withholding of funds and the lack of formal resolution regarding our project status.

We remain committed to professional, fair, and contractually compliant participation — and we trust the Commission will act to uphold the legal and procedural standards of the Horizon framework.

Sincerely,

Luca Alloatti

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Luca Alloatti". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.