

# THE 5 PHASES OF INVESTMENT FRAUD

RECOGNISE FRAUD BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE

## PHASE 1

### FALSE ADVERTISING



An **awesome ad**, a **tip from a famous person from Flanders** or a **fake profile** on social media.

All these lead to fake websites and fake investment professionals.

**TIP**

**Know who you're doing business with.**

Find out who is behind the company.

## PHASE 2

### SAFE DEPOSIT, HIGH PROFITS



A safe **initial amount** (usually 250 euros) and promises of fast and high profits.

**TIP**

**Don't be put under time pressure.**

Know what product you're investing in.

## PHASE 3

### UNFORESEEN PROBLEMS



The **waiting time** to withdraw your money and **unexpected fees** and **taxes**.

**TIP**

**Do not deposit any more money**

and sever all contact.

## PHASE 4

### SILENCE OR STALKING



You can **no longer reach** the company or, on the contrary, you are **harassed several times** a day.

**TIP**

**Report the fraud**

[consumerconnect.be](https://consumerconnect.be)

[safeonweb.be](https://safeonweb.be)

and file a complaint with the local police.

## PHASE 5

### NEW FRAUD



A **new party** will contact you, claiming that they can help you get your investment back ... for a fee.

**TIP**

**Never accept those offers.**



### DID YOU KNOW



Belgians lost **16.8 million euros** on fraudulent trading platforms in 2024.



Most cases involved scams via **trading platforms** and cryptocurrencies.



The number of cases of **double fraud** is rising.



Safeonweb<sup>.be</sup>

STAY ALERT WHEN INVESTING ONLINE. FIND OUT HOW ON [SAFEONWEB.BE](https://safeonweb.be)