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**EUROPEAN COMMITTEE ON CRIME PROBLEMS**  
**(CDPC)**

**COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS**  
**ON THE OPERATION OF EUROPEAN CONVENTIONS**  
**ON CO-OPERATION IN CRIMINAL MATTERS**  
**PC-OC**

**JUDICIAL CO-OPERATION IN CRIMINAL MATTERS<sup>1</sup>**

**Role and activities of the PC-OC**  
**A short overview**  
**As amended by the PC-OC Mod**

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<sup>1</sup> This draft leaflet, updated following the proposals by the PC-OC during its 61<sup>st</sup> meeting and by the PC-OC Mod during their 13<sup>th</sup> meeting, aims at giving practitioners some information on the role and activities of the PC-OC and offers them the possibility to benefit from the PC-OC's extensive experience by asking questions.

**Assisting in and development of judicial co-operation in criminal matters (Cover/Intro?)**

International judicial co-operation is based on three fundamental principles namely: goodwill, knowledge of the applicable legal instruments and the adequate use of the available tools to facilitate co-operation.

The committee known as the PC-OC (Committee of experts on the operation of European Conventions on co-operation in criminal matters) is one of these tools and national practitioners can take advantage of the expertise of the PC-OC Secretariat and its national experts. A website has been set up containing useful information and documentation regarding this co-operation in the fields of extradition, mutual legal assistance, transfer of sentenced persons and other matters.

**What is the PC-OC?**

The PC-OC is a Council of Europe committee of experts in the field of international co-operation in criminal matters.

The committee is composed of representatives of the central authorities of the 47 member states of the Council of Europe and observers.

The PC-OC monitors the application of the Council of Europe conventions related to international co-operation in criminal matters and proposes new instruments in this field. It also produces helpful tools, such as country information, model forms, practical guidelines etc for practitioners who deal with these instruments. Its main domains of activity include extradition, mutual legal assistance and transfer of sentenced persons.

Practitioners from all States Parties to the Council of Europe conventions on international co-operation in criminal matters are invited to visit the PC-OC website at: [www.coe.int/tcj](http://www.coe.int/tcj).

The public area of the PC-OC website contains:

- information on the activities of the PC-OC including its upcoming and past meetings and events;
- legal standards and useful background material for practitioners (country information, tools for implementation) in the key areas of work of the PC-OC (extradition, mutual legal assistance, transfer of sentenced persons and other);
- archives of past activities, studies, papers and publications of interest;
- relevant case law of the European Court of Human Rights;
- useful links to other websites of interest to the activities of the PC-OC.

**Can I ask the PC-OC a question?**

Questions about the application or interpretation of the Council of Europe instruments in the field of international co-operation in criminal matters are most welcome. They will help the PC-OC in continuing the development of these instruments. These questions may be submitted to your national PC-OC representative.

Questions about the functioning and activities of the PC-OC may be sent to the Secretariat at the following e-mail address: [Dg1.tcj@coe.int](mailto:Dg1.tcj@coe.int).