

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Strasbourg, 23 February 2017
cdpc/docs 2017/cdpc(2017)1

CDPC (2017) 1

EUROPEAN COMMITTEE ON CRIME PROBLEMS (CDPC)

CATALOGUE OF INTERNATIONAL JUDICIAL NETWORKS OF RELEVANCE IN THE FIGHT AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL ORGANISED CRIME

PRELIMINARY REPORT

Document prepared by
Ms Esther George, LLB (Hons), LLM, MA
United Kingdom

www.coe.int/cdpc - dgi-cdpc@coe.int

TABLE OF CONTENTS**Contents**

1. Introduction	3
2. The Research	3
3. Conclusions and recommendations	4
3.1 Setting-up an international judicial network/body	4
3.2 Online knowledge sharing platform	5
3.3 To host and promote the catalogue of international judicial networks.....	5
3.4 Final Comment	6
4. Catalogue of international judicial networks	7
4.1 European Networks	7
4.2 Non-European Networks	18

1. Introduction

This is a preliminary working paper identifying a list of international judicial networks of relevance for the fight against transnational organised crime and describing their functions and working methods.

There is presently a proliferation of networks being formed on nearly every conceivable subject. There is little or no research on the lifespan of legal networks; although there was some on the lifespan of social networks¹.

To draft a list of international judicial networks of relevance for the fight against transnational organised crime, the first question to answer is “what is an “international judicial network?” Unsurprisingly there are various definitions as each network appears to define itself by what it offers.

To determine what an “international judicial network” is, I have gone to the dictionary (in particular the Cambridge Dictionary) to find out the meaning of each word.

- ‘International’ means involving more than one country;
- ‘Judicial’ can mean involving a law court, a judicial system, a judge;
- ‘Network’ means to meet people who might be useful to know.

In identifying the ‘international judicial networks’ I have used the following four criteria that:

- Members will be from more than one country.
- Members will consist of judges and/or prosecutors and/or law enforcement, taking into account the various legal systems.
- It is an existing network. That is because whilst researching, a few networks mentioned in 2004/5 appear to have disappeared without a trace.
- They are of relevance for the fight against transnational organised crime.

All the networks listed fulfil the criteria set out above and for simplicity have been further divided into “European Networks” and “Non-European Networks”.

2. The Research

The research uncovered a whole myriad of domestic judicial networks which did not fulfil the criteria and were discarded.

¹ Epidemiological modelling of online social network dynamics - John Cannarella, Joshua A. Spechler – arXiv: 1401. 4208v1 [cs.SI] submitted 17 Jan 2014.

There were some networks like the 'European Judicial Network in Civil and Commercial Matters' that fulfilled the first three points of the criteria but failed on the last one and were not listed.

There were overlaps between some of the networks. Some single subject networks could possibly have become part of or a subgroup of an already established network instead of starting as a new one. One example of this is of a new network which was set up in May 2016 when there was already a network in existence which could have been utilised if the right question had been asked.

There were mentions online in 2004/5 of networks of which there is today no trace. I also came across some networks which, although they still exist (have a web page), there has not been any activity on it for some time.

There are many other networks which appear to be thriving, they are well organised with adequately financed secretariats and up-to-date, well-maintained websites and have an extensive list of members. For example: Eurojust, the European Judicial Network and the International Association of Prosecutors. All 3 networks have a number of Memorandum of Understanding and other agreements with other networks and non-Governmental bodies (NGO's).

In a world of limited resources and manpower silo working/networking is not effective, networks must work together.

3. Conclusions and recommendations

In order to promote the interconnection of international judicial networks you first have to map or catalogue them all. The Council of Europe has made a good start with the number of European and non-European networks listed.

The next step is to encourage them to connect and work together. There are a number of ways to do this and three options are listed below:

3.1 Setting-up an international judicial network/body

This new body, where all the present networks in this arena are invited/encouraged to join, should have annual meetings, a dedicated knowledge sharing platform open to all the networks and be able to offer a package of services to the networks. Services should include secretarial and financial support, facilitating communication and information-sharing among the different networks, maintaining an electronic mailing list, arranging face-to-face and virtual meetings and audio conferences, etc. ...

The body should not set out to replace existing mechanisms for co-operation between the networks but rather seek to harmonise them.

This model is similar in some respects (but on a larger scale) to what presently pertains in some networks for example, the International Association of Prosecutors (IAP). The IAP has six networks which are part of the IAP structure and adhere to the IAP rules and regulations regarding what the networks can do. Financial and secretariat support, etc. is obtained via the IAP and the networks are hosted within the IAP platform which is accessed by IAP members only. This works well for the IAP as there are numerous benefits for the IAP and the networks which have always existed within this structure. It may well be difficult to persuade international judicial networks which have existed for years and are thriving that they would want to join such a structure. It would also require a significant cash injection to maintain such a structure on the scale that would be required.

3.2 Online knowledge sharing platform

To develop, establish, maintain and update a platform which is accessible to all, in order to facilitate co-operation between all international judicial networks of relevance in the fight against Transnational Organised Crime. The platform will host and promote the catalogue of international judicial networks and will gradually also host and maintain other information useful to the networks and their members such as a 'list of Liaison Magistrates', etc.

Hold annual meetings, open to all leaders of the networks to enable them to interact and get to know each other so that they can exchange knowledge, good practice and experience in order that they may work together. The annual meeting can be a virtual, as opposed to a physical, event.

Interactions with the networks should be informal and flexible. The website will become an important source of information. An invitation should be sent to all networks listed to encourage them to maintain contact and share experiences with other international judicial networks.

It is necessary for judicial networks to coordinate and support one another. In order to do this, they need to know who the other networks are and their remit. The catalogue of international judicial networks will assist them in doing this.

During the annual meeting, the networks should be asked what further services and assistance they require, as the possibilities of assistance are endless.

For this option to be effective, it will require adequate resources to support the work of the international judicial networks.

3.3 To host and promote the catalogue of international judicial networks.

The Council of Europe website should host, promote, maintain and update the catalogue of international judicial networks.

To gradually develop a relationship with the networks listed and encourage interaction with each other so that they can exchange knowledge, good practice and experience in order that they may work together.

3.4 Final Comment

Option 2 is the preferred option as it should be the most effective and efficient if there are sufficient financial resources to implement it properly and make it sustainable.

With option 3 you can begin where you are now as it will only require a small budget and can mature into option 2 at a later stage.

4. Catalogue of international judicial networks

4.1 European Networks

	PURPOSE	MEMBERS
Bureau for Euroregional Cooperation (BES)	<p>The BES (Bureau voor Euregionale Samenwerking) is a network of national prosecuting authorities with the purpose to curtail offender's freedom. It aims to establish more intensive and effective cross-border cooperation in the region².</p> <p>With the assistance of the BES, it has been possible to optimize cooperation of investigations on-site, to share information and to tackle cross-border crime more effectively.</p> <p>The regional network also works on the digitalisation of data exchange for criminal matters by using the e-CODEX infrastructure³ (platform of electronic cooperation in criminal matters) in particular with regards to the platform's technical building blocks and piloting experience.</p> <p>The Ministries have also created a 'Tri-national working group on digitalization of EURegios'. The working group enables the secure exchange of data between the legal administrations⁴.</p> <p>The BES's cooperation with e-CODEX and the 'Tri-national working group on digitalization of EURegios' is in particular beneficial for the handling of requests for mutual legal assistance and enquiries for information between the national prosecuting authorities.</p>	<i>Belgium, Netherlands, North Rhine-Westphalia (Germany)</i>
Camden Assets Recovery Interagency Network (CARIN)	<p>The CARIN is an informal network of law enforcement and judicial practitioners as well as specialists in the field of asset tracing, freezing, seizure and confiscation.</p> <p>-It is an interagency network</p> <p>-Each member state is represented by a law enforcement officer and a judicial expert (prosecutor, investigation judge – depending on the legal system).</p> <p>The representatives of the Member States are called 'national contact points'</p> <p>-CARIN contacts support the complete asset recovery process</p>	<p><u>54 Registered Member Jurisdictions</u></p> <p><i>Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Gibraltar,</i></p>

² <http://www.e-codex.eu/pilots/secure-exchange-of-data/euregio.html>

³ <http://www.e-codex.eu/home.html>

⁴ <http://www.e-codex.eu/news-and-media/news/single-view/article/euregio-starts.html>

	<p>The principal objectives of CARIN are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -establish a network of contact points -focus on the proceeds of all crimes, within the scope of international obligations -establish itself as a centre of expertise on all aspects of tackling the proceeds of crime -promote the exchange of information and good practice -facilitate training in all aspects of tackling the proceeds of crime⁵ 	<p><i>Greece, Guernsey, Hungary, Ireland, Isle of Man, Italy, Jersey, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovak republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Observer States</p> <p><i>Albania, Australia, Canada, Croatia, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Georgia, Iceland, Indonesia, Israel, Kosovo, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Russia, Serbia, South Africa, Ukraine</i></p> <p><u>9 Observer International Organisations</u></p> <p><i>Egmont Group, EUROJUST, Europol (Secretariat) International Criminal Court, International Monetary Fund (Associate) OLAF, RRAG Secretariat, UNODC, World Bank (Associate)</i></p> <p><u>Regional asset recovery inter-agency networks</u></p> <p><i>ARIN-AP, ARIN-EA, ARIN-SA, ARIN-WA</i></p>
--	--	--

⁵ <http://carin-network.org/>

<p>Committee of Experts on the Operation of European Conventions on Co-Operation in Criminal Matters (PC-OC) Council of Europe</p>	<p>The PC-OC is the forum in which experts from all Member States and other States Parties to conventions falling within the remit of the PC-OC as well as Organisations elaborate ways to facilitate international cooperation in criminal matters and identify solutions to obstacles hampering the practical application of Council of European Treaties in this field.</p> <p>The treaties covered by the PC-OC concern extradition; mutual legal assistance; transfer of proceedings, transfer of sentenced persons; supervision of offenders; international validity of judgments; and seizure and confiscation of proceeds of crime⁶.</p> <p>The PC-OC provides lists of contact points in the State Parties to the Conventions within its remit for the application of these conventions. For example, the list of officials involved in the practical application of the</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -European Convention on Extradition -European Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters -Convention on the Transfer of Sentenced Persons <p>For the application of other conventions within the competency of the PC-OC, a list of single points of contact has been drawn up.</p> <p>All contact points are regularly updated and available on the restricted website of the PC-OC.</p>	<p>47 Member States</p> <p><i>Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom</i></p> <p>Other State Parties to Conventions falling within the remit of the PC-OC</p> <p><i>Australia, Bahamas, Bolivia, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Honduras, Israel, Japan, Kazakhstan, Korea, Mauritius,</i></p>

⁶ http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/standardsetting/pc-oc/default_FR.asp

		<i>Mexico, Mongolia, Panama, South Africa, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, United States of America, Venezuela</i>
Convention on Cybercrime Art 35 24/7 Contact Points	In order to facilitate immediate, “expedited” or provisional measures the Convention on Cybercrime stipulates in its Article 35 that each party to the Convention establish a 24/7 point of contact. The provisional measures taken by these contact points (CP) in most cases need to be followed up to by formal requests for legal cooperation.	Parties to the Convention on Cybercrime <i>Albania, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland , France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Canada, Dominican Republic, Israel, Japan, Mauritius, Panama, Sri Lanka, United States of America</i>
The Cybercrime Convention Committee (T-CY)	T-CY protects societies worldwide and their rights in cyberspace due to increased threat of cybercrime. T-CY works under the Convention on Cybercrime dealing with xenophobia, racism, among others. It puts in place the protocols that promote information sharing as per the relevant regulations and formal alternatives to enhance efficient way for sharing cross-sector information and international cooperation among various cybercrime units. ⁷ Trans border Group operates under T-CY for jurisdiction and Tran border access to data flows. It also uses investigative measures across borders on internet and related issues and provides such report and findings to the Committee. ⁸	<i>Albania, Andorra. Armenia, Austria, Cyprus, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia. Finland, Germany, Ireland, Iceland. Italy, Latvia. Liechtenstein. Lithuania, Macedonia, Montenegro, Norway, Netherlands. Poland, Portugal. Czech Republic, Serbia, Spain,</i>

⁷ <http://www.coe.int/en/web/cybercrime/the-budapest-convention>

⁸ <http://www.coe.int/en/web/cybercrime/tb>

	<p>Cloud Evidence Group is another group under T-CY and explores solutions for access to evidence in servers, foreign jurisdictions, and cloud, and also through mutual legal assistance. The organization set common standards on cybercrime, ensure capacity building, embark on technical cooperation programs. It also follows up and carries out assessments.⁹</p>	<p><i>Slovakia, Slovenia. Sweden, Switzerland.</i></p>
<p>Eurojust</p>	<p>-Eurojust is a judicial cooperation unit composed of national prosecutors, magistrates, or police officers of equivalent competences who have been detached from each Member State according to their own legal systems.</p> <p>-It aims to reinforce the fight against serious organised crime by initiating and assisting the coordination of investigations and prosecutions between the competent authorities in the Member States, in particular, by facilitating the execution of international mutual legal assistance and the implementation of extradition requests¹⁰</p> <p>-Eurojust can also assist investigations and prosecutions concerning a Member State and a non-Member State if a cooperation agreement has been concluded or if an essential interest in providing assistance is demonstrated.</p> <p>Types of crime and offences that it covers:</p> <p>- Terrorism, drug trafficking, trafficking in human beings, counterfeiting, money laundering including fraud and corruption, criminal offences affecting the European community's financial interests, environmental crime and participation in a criminal organisation.</p>	<p>28 Member States of the European Union</p> <p><i>Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and United Kingdom</i></p> <p>- <u>Established contact points in 23 non-Member States</u> <i>Albania, Argentina, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Egypt, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland, Israel, Japan, Korea, Liechtenstein, Moldova, Mongolia, Montenegro, Norway, Russian Federation, Serbia, Singapore, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine and the USA. Korea is the most recent addition</i></p>

⁹ <https://www.coe.int/en/web/cybercrime/tcy>

¹⁰ <http://www.eurojust.europa.eu/about/background/Pages/mission-tasks.aspx>

		<p>Third States and organisations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Cooperation agreements</u> <i>United States of America, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland, former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Ukraine</i> - <u>Liaison Prosecutors</u> <i>United States of America, Norway, Switzerland</i> - <u>Contact Points</u> <i>40 third States are part of Eurojust's judicial contact point network</i> <p>Partners</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EJM, Europol, the European Union's Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) and Liaison Magistrates.
<p>Euromed Justice Projects Part of the European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI)</p>	<p>Following the success of the previous two Euromed Justice Projects, the Euromed Justice Project III provides cooperation in the field of justice by supporting the development of the partners' capacity and supports the modernisation of justice, including the access to justice.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It aims to address the need to develop judicial cooperation in civil matters and to support initiatives for the reform of criminal and penitentiary law. -The project also aims to enhance cooperation by creating synergies/collaborations between the beneficiary countries and relevant EU judicial cooperation units. -The groups are composed of judges, prosecutors, lawyers, officials of the Ministries of Justice and authorities including within the civil society. -The Euromed Justice Project was funded by the European Union. 	<p>European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI) South Partners part of the project</p> <p><i>Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, Syria (formally part of the project even if there is a partial and temporary suspension of the EuroMed Justice III project in terms of Syrian participation), Tunisia</i></p> <p>There is also the ENPI East Countries (however, they are not a part of the Euromed Justice Projects)</p> <p><i>Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus,</i></p>

		<i>Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine¹¹</i>
European Network of Councils for the Judiciary (ENCJ)	<p>The ENCJ unites the national institutions in the Member States of the European Union which are independent of the executive and legislature, and which are responsible for the support of the Judiciaries in the independent delivery of justice. The ENCJ's aim is to improve cooperation between, and good mutual understanding amongst, the Councils for the Judiciary and the members of the Judiciary of the European Union (or candidate) Member States.</p> <p>The ENCJ reinforces an independent yet accountable judiciary and promotes best practices to enable the judiciary to deliver timely and effective justice for the benefit of all.</p> <p>The ENCJ will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · a unique body representing the judicial perspective to European institutions · the centre of a vibrant forum for the judiciary across Europe · the main support for independent Councils for the Judiciary <p>all to enable the judiciary to optimise the timely and effective delivery of justice for the benefit of all.</p> <p>The ENCJ Strategic Objectives for 2014-2018 are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To promote independent and accountable justice systems in the EU and wider Europe • To promote timely and effective justice (measured in terms of independence, efficiency and quality) for the benefit of all citizens in the EU • To strengthen mutual trust between judges and other judicial authorities 	<p>Members</p> <p><i>Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Denmark, England & Wales, France, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, The Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Scotland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain.</i></p>

¹¹ <http://www.enpi-info.eu/ENI>

<p>European Judicial Network (EJN)</p>	<p>-The EJN is a network of national contact points with the objective to facilitate judicial cooperation in criminal matters between the Member States of the European Union.</p> <p>-National Contact points are designated among central authorities competent in international judicial cooperation. The appointment of contact points takes place according to the constitutional rules, legal traditions and internal structure of each country. Among the Contact Points, each Member State shall designate a National Correspondent; they are responsible for issues related to the internal functioning of the Network and for the contacts with the Secretariat of the EJN.</p> <p>A part of its operational work is also the formation of proposals for the resolution of conflicts in judicial matters¹².</p> <p>Areas of facilitation in judicial cooperation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fiches Belges – investigative measures: EU Member States can ask each other for assistance in investigative measures (hear witnesses/suspects, collection information, freeze assets) - Judicial Atlas: Establishes the competent authority for receiving a request for legal assistance. - Contact Points: Legal practitioners who have an intrinsic knowledge of their legal system can offer valuable information and help with the drafting of requests for legal assistance. <p>Projects</p> <p>The EJN participates as an associated partner in the Project ‘International Cooperation in Criminal Justice’: The Western Balkans Prosecutor’s Network¹³. The EJN is part of the steering committee of the project and provides input based on the experience of its network.</p>	<p>EJN is composed of more than 300 national contact points in 28 Member States, the European Commission, and the Secretariat</p> <p>28 Member States of the European Union</p> <p><i>Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and United Kingdom</i></p> <p>Partners</p> <p>Judicial cooperation in criminal matters with third countries is regulated by international law treaties and bilateral or multilateral agreements Direct nomination of contact points of judges, prosecutors or other practitioners from judicial authorities in third countries.</p>
<p>European Network for Judicial Training (EJTN)</p>	<p>The EJTN is the principal platform and promoter for the training and exchange of knowledge of the European judiciary. EJTN represents the interests of over 120,000 European judges, prosecutors and judicial trainers across Europe.</p> <p>Formed in 2000, EJTN’s fields of interest include EU, civil, criminal and commercial law and linguistics and societal issues training. The vision of EJTN is to help to foster a common legal and judicial European culture.</p>	<p>EJTN has some 34 members representing EU states as well as EU transnational bodies.</p> <p>Members:</p>

¹² <http://www.ejnforum.eu/cp/>

¹³ https://www.ejn-crimjust.europa.eu/ejn/EJN_StaticPage.aspx?Bread=14

	<p>EJTN develops training standards and curricula, coordinates judicial training exchanges and programmes, disseminates training expertise and promotes cooperation between EU judicial training institutions.</p> <p>EJTN's mandate is to help build a genuine European area of justice and to promote knowledge of legal systems, thereby enhancing the understanding, confidence and cooperation between judges and prosecutors within EU states. EJTN promotes training programmes with a genuine European dimension for members of the judiciary in Europe.</p> <p>This involves analysing and identifying training needs, designing programmes and methods for collaborative training, developing exchanges, and disseminating experiences in the field of judicial training, coordinating programmes and providing training expertise and know-how.</p>	<p><i>Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, The Academy of European Law, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary: National Office for the Judiciary, Hungary: Office of the Prosecutor General, Ireland, Italy: Scuola Superiore della Magistratura, Italy: Consiglio Superiore della Magistratura, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain: Centro de Estudios Juridicos, Spain: Escuela Judicial Consejo General del Poder Judicial, Sweden: Courts of Sweden Judicial Training Academy, Sweden: Swedish Prosecution Authority, United Kingdom: England & Wales, United Kingdom: Northern Ireland, United Kingdom: Scotland.</i></p>
<p>Genocide Network of Contact Points</p>	<p>The Network of contact points promotes close cooperation between the national authorities to investigate and prosecute crimes against humanity, prosecute the crime of genocide, and war crimes. The national authorities assume the responsibility of investigating and prosecuting core international crimes. The aim of the Network is to continue close cooperation at transnational and national level to combat impunity for the crime against genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes within the European Union and its Member States.' The fight against impunity is a real and current issue facing national authorities.</p> <p>The Network facilitates cooperation and assistance across the Member States who exchange information, investigate, and prosecute persons and suspects that commit or participate in commission of relevant crimes.</p> <p>Each Member State designates a contact point facilitating the cooperation and for</p>	<p><i>Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom</i></p>

	exchanging information between authorities. ¹⁴	
Network of National Experts on Joint Investigation Teams (JIT)	<p>Each Member State to the European Union designates a National Expert 'with a view to encouraging the use of JITs and exchanging experience on best practices'. The Secretariat promotes the activities of the JIT's Network and supports the National Experts in their work. It is hosted and funded by Eurojust.</p> <p>The aim of the JIT's network is to facilitate the work of practitioners in Member States by the setting up of teams for the sharing of best practices¹⁵.</p>	<p>28 Member States of the European Union</p> <p><i>Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and United Kingdom</i></p>
Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development Anti-Corruption Network for Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ACN)	<p>ACN is a Network that operates as a regional outreach program of OECD open to various countries such as Central Asia and Eastern Europe with national governments and anti-corruption authorities as the main counterparts for the participating countries. The organization was established with an objective of supporting the member countries in their efforts to fight and prevent corruption. The organization offers regional forum that promote anti-corruption efforts, promote the exchange of critical information, donor coordination, and elaboration of the best practices. Other institutions that take an active role in ACN include the civil society, international organizations, business sector, international financial institutions, and other countries.</p> <p>ACN operates through various general meetings, sub-regional initiatives, conferences, and thematic projects.</p> <p>The Secretariat that operates from Paris develops and implements the work program. It helps the participating countries in reform efforts, practical implementation of measures to curb corruption, and effective enforcement of laws.¹⁶</p>	<p><i>Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, FYR of Macedonia, Moldova, Mongolia, Montenegro, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovenia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan.</i></p>

¹⁴ <http://www.eurojust.europa.eu/Practitioners/networks-and-fora/Pages/genocide-network.aspx>

¹⁵ <http://www.eurojust.europa.eu/Practitioners/JITs/jitsnetwork/Pages/JITs-network.aspx>

¹⁶ <http://www.oecd.org/corruption/acn/aboutthenetwork/>

<p>South Eastern European Prosecutors Advisory Group (Seepag)</p>	<p>-The Seepag is an international mechanism of judicial cooperation with the objective to facilitate judicial cooperation in significant trans-border crime investigations and cases. -It is a network of national representatives who are experienced prosecutors or judges who assist SELEC countries (Southeast European Law Enforcement Centre) in operational matters and facilitate the exchange of information and evidence whilst also providing guidance, assistance, and feedback on justice and law enforcement matters. -It is Composed of Prosecutorial Contact Points (PFP)¹⁷</p>	<p><i>Albania, Bosnia Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, the Former Yugoslav republic of Macedonia, Greece, Hungary, Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, Turkey</i></p> <p>Operational Partners</p> <p>Italy, United States of America</p>
<p>Western Balkan Prosecutors Network (WBPN) Project</p>	<p>Following the success of the first project '<i>Fight against organised crime and corruption: strengthening the prosecutors' network of the Western Balkans</i>', the European Commission has initiated a new project with the GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit – specialised in international development) which will run from November 2014 to October 2017. The WBPN aims to continue preventing and fighting serious and trans-border organised crime linked to corruption cases and the dissolution of criminal organisations involved in illicit trafficking in the European Union¹⁸.</p>	<p><i>Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia</i></p>

¹⁷ <http://www.seepag.info/index.php?section=about&id=2>

¹⁸ <http://www.cilc.nl/project/international-cooperation-in-criminal-justice-the-prosecutors-network-of-the-western-balkans/>

4.2 Non-European Networks

	PURPOSE	MEMBERS
The African Judicial Network (AJN)	AJN is an international partnership that focuses on fostering effectiveness and efficiency in the judicial systems of the member countries. The organization works to promote beneficial relationships as members discuss challenges faced, lesson learned, and share the best practices to apply them in various contexts. AJN has involved professionals and outstanding members of the judiciary and judicial system in the African continent advocating for improvement in different issues. Some of the issues they address are discrepancies between executive branch and judiciary, access to just and lack of uniform application of law, lack of enforcing business contracts, breach to civil rights, unpredictable and untimely legal decisions. Accordingly, AJN brings together key actors as reform-oriented jurists and judicial professionals that share information, opinions, and experiences from different countries. ¹⁹	<i>Angola, Tanzania, South Africa, Ghana, Kenya, Mali, Uganda Rwanda, Senegal, Malawi, Mauritius, and Burundi.</i>
Asian Judges Network On Environment (AJNE)	<p>AJNE focuses on sharing information and experience among the senior judges of the Association of Southeast Asian National (ASEAN) and South Asia Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC). AJNE exist as an informal trans-governmental network that offers a dynamic forum for building the capacity of judicial personalities and other multilateral exchanges on environmental adjudication. Asian Development Bank has worked with judiciaries in Asia on environmental program to build the capacity of the judiciary in determining environmental cases and promote expertise in environmental law.</p> <p>The Bank hosted Asian Judges Symposium in 2010 with around 120 senior judges, officials in the environmental ministry, civil societies, and other experts in environmental law discussing ways that can lead to environment protection, law enforcement, and effective environmental adjudication. The symposium led to the creation of AJNE.</p> <p>The ASEAN Chief Justice's Roundtable in 2011 Jakarta led to adoption of Common Vision on Environmental for ASEAN judiciaries followed by other events in 2012, 2013, and 2014. The events have addressed illegal forestry, biodiversity and wildlife trade, deforestation, illegal, unregulated, and unsustainable fishing.</p> <p>AJNE adopted Bhurban Declaration in 2012 in which considers environmental issues</p>	<p>ASEAN Member States:</p> <p><i>Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Brunei, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, and Vietnam.</i></p> <p>SAARC Members:</p> <p><i>Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Maldives, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.</i></p>

¹⁹

http://journals.co.za/docserver/fulltext/magist/2004/09/magist_sep_2004_a8.pdf?expires=1487258434&id=id&accname=guest&checksum=62E3AC1D254AE7F1BC7B82A85EB88CE0

	<p>mentioned earlier as transnational organized crimes. Asian Development Bank supports AJNE offering technical expertise, financial assistance, and institutional support. It hosts AJNE website, facilitates face to face meetings, roundtable, and national projects with the judiciaries of the Member States.²⁰</p>	
<p>Commonwealth Network of Contact Persons (CNCP)</p>	<p>The CNCP’s purpose is to facilitate international cooperation in criminal cases between Commonwealth Member States on mutual legal assistance and extradition. -It has at least one contact person from each Member State²¹.</p> <p>New Projects</p> <p>Creation of a ‘blockchain’ app which aims to create a secure messaging system for more effective cooperation in criminal investigations and assistance in combatting cross-border crime.²²</p>	<p>Commonwealth Member States</p> <p><i>Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Cameroon, Canada, Cyprus, Dominica, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guyana, India, Jamaica, Kenya, Kiribati, Lesotho, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, St Kitts and Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Swaziland, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu and Zambia</i></p>

²⁰ <http://www.ajne.org/about-ajne>

²¹ <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/legal-tools/international-cooperation-networks.html#CNCP>

²² <http://thecommonwealth.org/media/press-release/commonwealth-announces-new-app-fight-cross-border-crime>

<p>Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Cybercrime Network</p>	<p>The ECOWAS Cybercrime Network (ECN) is established as a mechanism enabling the implementation and review of the use of the ECOWAS Directive C/DIR.1/08/11 on Fighting Cybercrime within ECOWAS Directive.</p> <p>SCOPE – The ECN shall bring together National Focal Points from the Member States and incorporate liaison with key stakeholders.</p> <p>The core objectives of the ECN are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Promote the effective exchange of information and intelligence between criminal justice and law enforcement counterparts pertaining to cybercrime and electronic evidence. ii. Facilitate working relationships/collaborations between criminal justice and law enforcement counterparts of member States, and other key stakeholders. iii. Facilitate and promote efficient informal and formal international cooperation/joint operations among member States against cybercrime. iv. Exchange information on best practices, technical assistance and capacity building to combat cybercrime. <p>National Focal Points The ECN shall include National Focal Points (NFPs) from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Law Enforcement ➤ Prosecutorial Authorities ➤ Central Authority Units ➤ Government Agencies in charge of ICT 	<p>Benin, Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo</p>
<p>G7 Roma Lyon Group Criminal Legal Affairs SubGroup (CLASG)</p>	<p>The Roma/Lyons Group assumes the mandate of debating, developing issues, and strategizing on public security with an aim to combat transnational crime and terrorism. Also, the group addresses legal issues and themes related to transport. Representatives from the foreign and interior ministry mastermind the work of the Group such as preparation of projects and submit them to member countries, coordinate debates to come up with a shared approach in the G7 countries. Some of the phenomena addressed includes the struggle against organized crime and terrorism where the Group come up with “best practices” and recommendations to safeguard the public security.²³</p>	<p><i>Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Russia, the UK</i></p>

²³ http://www.g8italia2009.it/G8/Home/News/G8-G8_Layout_locale-1199882116809_AppGiustizia.htm

<p>G8 Lyon-Roma Group High Tech Crime SubGroup</p>	<p>The principle aim of the G8 High Technology Crime Subgroup (HTCSG) is the implementation of stronger controls related to domain name registration and enforcing rigorous and mandatory regulatory framework that govern ICANN's contracts with domain registrars. The organization developed the requirements for accredited registrars to promote effective due diligence. HTCSG develops controls that promote accurate WHOIS information and the availability for Law Enforcement. Moreover, it develops strategies to improve transparency on domain name reselling and third party beneficiaries. The Group comprises representatives from justice departments, law enforcement, and G8 countries' government bodies that support the recommendations and implementation.²⁴</p>	<p><i>Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Russia, the UK, and the United States.</i></p>
<p>G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group</p>	<p>G20 has assumed a critical role through national and global anti-corruption efforts. G20 efforts to fight corruption started in 2010 with a primary goal of coming up with comprehensive recommendations that leaders can consider for G20 to assume valuable and practical efforts and international contributions to combat corruption. It works with multiple organizations including the World Bank Group, UNODC, FATF, IMF, THE OECD, Business 20, and the Civil Society 20. Some of the partners actively participate and contribute to the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative (StAR). G20 ensure that members' countries lead by adding value to the current international instruments and commitments. StAR offer advices on asset recovery, counter-terrorism financing and anti-money laundering, income and asset disclosures, transparency and beneficial ownership.²⁵</p>	<p><i>Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Turkey, United States, United Kingdom and the European Union (EU)</i></p>
<p>The Great Lakes Judicial Cooperation Network (GLRJCN)</p>	<p>The Network establishes judicial cooperation aiming to combat transnational crimes and terrorism. It tracks the implementation of the measures and also strengthens cooperation in extradition of accused persons, fugitives, and promotes mutual enforcement of justice. The Network has modalities that assist and promote practical implementation of its protocol and reinforce commitment made by the Heads of State for the region. Accordingly, the aim of the organization is to ensure adoption of protocols that promote security, development, and stability in the Great Lakes Region. ²⁶</p>	<p><i>Sudan, Central African Republic, South Sudan, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi, Angola, Zambia, Congo. Other members that cooperate include Egypt, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Botswana, and Namibia.</i></p>

²⁴ <http://gnso.icann.org/en/issues/raa/statement-g8-lyon-roma-group-13apr10-en.pdf>

²⁵ <https://star.worldbank.org/star/about-us/g20-anti-corruption-working-group>

²⁶ <http://www.icglr.org/index.php/en/homepage/135-laast-news/752-judicial-cooperation-nairobi-nov-2016>

<p>Hemispheric Information exchange network for Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters</p>	<p>The Hemispheric Information exchange network serves as a platform to provide legal information related to mutual assistance and extradition. It is composed of three parts: a public website, a private website and a secure electronic communication system. The secure electronic communication system facilitates the exchange of information between central authorities dealing with mutual assistance in criminal matters and extradition²⁷.</p>	<p>34 Member States of the Organisation of American States</p> <p><i>Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, St Kitts and Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, United States, Uruguay and Venezuela</i></p>
<p>Ibero-American Legal Assistance Network (IberRed)</p>	<p>The IberRed is composed of legal agents and deals with civil and criminal matters. It works in areas such as extradition, mutual criminal assistance, child abduction, transfer of sentenced persons, the United Nations Convention on Transnational Organized Crime and the United Nations Convention against Corruption²⁸.</p> <p>-Contact Points exist between the different Ministries of Justice, Prosecutors and Judicial Powers.</p>	<p>Member States</p> <p><i>Andorra, Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Chile, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Spain, Uruguay and Puerto Rico</i></p>
<p>International Association of Prosecutors (IAP)</p>	<p>The IAP is the only worldwide organization of prosecutors. It was established in 1995 the main impetus leading to its formation was the rapid growth in serious transnational crime; particularly drug trafficking, money laundering and fraud.</p> <p>The IAP is committed to setting and raising standards of professional conduct and ethics for prosecutors worldwide; promoting the rule of law, fairness, impartiality and respect for human rights and improving international co-operation to combat crime. Its mission is to be a world authority for prosecutors in the conduct of criminal prosecutions and associated matters and to operate as an organisation of international repute and referral.</p>	<p>Members</p> <p><i>172 organizational members from over 171 different countries, representing every continent, as well as many individual members</i></p>

²⁷ <https://www.oas.org/juridico/mla/en/>

²⁸ <https://www.iberred.org/>

<p>The Global prosecutors E-Crime Network (GPEN)</p>	<p>The IAP hosts six networks for members. The relevant ones for this paper are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Global Prosecutors E-Crime Network (GPEN) • Trafficking in Persons Platform (TIPP) • Counter Terrorism Prosecutors Network (CTPN) • Network of Anti-Corruption Prosecutors (NACP) <p>GPEN is a global network that improves international cooperation among cybercrime prosecutors. GPEN was launched in 2008 with the aim of assisting all countries to establish a safe and secure online environment for users, by ensuring that prosecutors have the tools to deal effectively with cyber-crime.</p> <p>The GPEN network provides:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a database of nominated e-crime prosecutors from around the world; • a forum for the exchange of expertise, queries and advice; • a collection of e-crime prosecution resource material, for example; national legislation and legal guidance; • a virtual Global E-Crime Prosecutors' College, a database of e-crime training courses and presentations with monthly webinar trainings and a newsletter; • a global community of e-crime prosecutors sharing expertise and experience. <p>Trafficking in persons is a complex global problem that requires an informed prosecutorial response. It is an evolving crime with the criminal networks, forms and methods of trafficking and trafficking routes changing constantly. Prosecutors have a key role to play in combating trafficking and it is important that they can obtain the information that will enable them to provide an effective response.</p> <p>TIPP was formally launched during the plenary session, on Organised Crime and Trafficking in Persons, at the 17th Annual Conference and General Meeting of the IAP, in Bangkok on 30th October 2012. The conference recommended that IAP members contribute to the TIPP platform and that the platform includes good practice on (a) a victim centred approach to Human Trafficking and (b) the advantages of multi-disciplinary task forces.</p> <p>The TIPP will provide both a network and a forum which will enable prosecutors to ask questions, inform on new trends and cases, exchange good practice and share problems.</p> <p>CTPN is a network of prosecutors engaged in the prosecution of terrorism cases and provides a valuable forum in which prosecutors from around the world exchange national experiences, identify common challenges and discuss ways to address these challenges,</p>	
---	--	--

<p>Network of Anti-Corruption Prosecutors (NACP)</p>		
<p>International Money Laundering Information Network (IMoLIN)</p>	<p>IMoLIN is a one-stop organization dealing with anti-money-laundering/countering the financing of terrorism and research resource. It provides information on national money-laundering, regulations and financing of terrorism and establishes contacts for inter-country assistance. IMoLIN identifies the areas of improvement in countermeasures, domestic laws, and international cooperation. IMoLIN is a useful body for policy practitioners, law enforcement officers, and lawyers that use it as a reference point for their work. It also provides information freely to all internet users.²⁹</p>	<p><i>United Nations</i></p>

²⁹ <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/money-laundering/imolin-amlid.html>

Judicial Regional Platform of the Indian Ocean	<p>Judicial Regional Platforms have been established by UNODC's Terrorism Prevention Branch and Organized Crime and Illicit Trafficking Branch to strengthen international cooperation in criminal matters in the regions of the Sahel and the Indian Ocean. Their main focus is to prevent and combat forms of serious crime, such as organized crime, corruption, drug trafficking or terrorism.</p>	<p><i>Comoros, France (Réunion), Madagascar, Mauritius and Seychelles</i></p>
Judicial Regional Platform of Sahel Countries (SAHEL)	<p>The Platforms are international cooperation networks of focal points, who facilitate extradition and mutual legal assistance in criminal matters procedures with the Member States of their Platforms. They also identify technical assistance needs for strengthening the judicial cooperation among them and sensitize the national stakeholders of the penal chain on the role and mechanisms of the Platforms. The national focal points meet, at least, once a year³⁰.</p>	<p><i>Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania, and Niger, launched in Bamako</i></p>
Network for Asia and the Pacific	<p>The organization was established with an aim to fight transnational organized crime that prevails in East Asia and the Pacific. The organization carries out threat assessments through a regional program approach which has grown with the rapid economic and social change that the region has experienced over the last few years. Most of organized crimes occur alongside legitimate commerce and thus law enforcement officials attempt to examine the mechanisms of trade including where, how, who, when, and why contraband markets affect the region. The organization give the best data across regional markets and threat assessment profiles of transnational organized crime covering issues such as:</p> <p>People: Smuggling migrants and labour trafficking prevailing in Greater Mekong Sub-Region, trafficking of women and girls for sexual exploitation, migrants smuggling to US, EU, Australia, and Canada from East and Southeast Asia</p> <p>Drugs: Opiates and methamphetamines trafficking from Myanmar, China, and Afghanistan into the region</p> <p>Environment: illegal wildlife trade, illicit trade on wood-based products, electrical and electronic waste, and ozone-depleting substances</p> <p>Goods: counterfeit from the region to EU and US and fraudulent essential medicines from the region to Southeast Asia and Africa.³¹</p>	<p><i>China, Japan, South Korea, Mongolia, North Korea, Australia, Brunei, Burma, Cambodia,</i></p>

³⁰<http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/legal-tools/international-cooperation-networks.html>

³¹https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/Studies/TOCTA_EAP_web.pdf

<p>Network of Judicial International Cooperation of the Portuguese speaking countries</p>	<p>-The Network of Judicial International Cooperation works in addressing criminal issues as well as in civil and commercial areas.</p> <p>-Recent developments include the installation of a platform of contact points, the creation of a system of legal practices of Member States, the standardization of requests for assistance and the creation of a judicial atlas.</p> <p>-It assists in matters of international legal and judicial cooperation with foreign authorities and international organisations. It also facilitates access to information on deadlines and specific legal procedures in each country, and provides solutions to legal issues³².</p>	<p><i>Angola, Brazil, Green Cape, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, Portugal, São Tomé and Príncipe, East Timor</i></p>
<p>Network of Prosecutors from Source, Transit and Destination Countries in Response to Transnational Organized Crime</p>	<p>The Network contributes towards inter alia; bridge the gaps between competent national authorities that handle requests for extradition, mutual legal assistance, and interregional level. The Network has established communication channels between the national authorities of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Sweden, and the USA. Accordingly, it works as a forum that establishes and strengthens professional contacts; streamline pending criminal cases, allow Members States to improve knowledge and skills to prosecute cases and crime that emerge constantly. The Members exchange the know-how and come up with best practices to detect and investigate laundering of crime proceeds from electronic money and other virtual currencies.</p> <p>The organization also forges cooperation for recovery of proceeds from the organized crime and develops frank discussions using concrete cases and produce results in a short time.³³</p>	<p><i>Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Sweden, Uzbekistan, the USA, Uzbekistan</i></p>
<p>Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development Anti-Corruption Network for Eastern Europe and Central Asia</p>	<p>ACN is a Network that operates as a regional outreach program of OECD open to various countries such as Central Asia and Eastern Europe with national governments and anti-corruption authorities as the main counterparts for the participating countries. The organization was established with an objective of supporting the member countries in their efforts to fight and prevent corruption. The organization offers regional forum that promote anti-corruption efforts, promote the exchange of critical information, donor coordination, and elaboration of the best practices. Other institutions that take an active role in CAN include the civil society, international organizations, business sector, international financial institutions, and other countries.</p> <p>ANC operates through various general meetings, sub-regional initiatives, conferences, and thematic projects.</p> <p>The Secretariat that operates from Paris develops and implements the work program. It helps the participating countries in reform efforts, practical implementation of measures to curb corruption, and effective enforcement of laws.³⁴</p>	<p><i>Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, FYR of Macedonia, Moldova, Mongolia, Montenegro, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovenia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan.</i></p>

³² <http://www.internacional.mpf.mp.br/institucional/institucional>

³³ <https://www.unodc.org/centralasia/en/news/response-to-transnational-organized-crime.html>

³⁴ <http://www.oecd.org/corruption/acn/aboutthenetwork/>

<p>UN Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) Working Group on International Cooperation</p>	<p>UNTOC facilitate open-ended intergovernmental meetings for experts to promote international cooperation to improve the capacity of all the parties to combat transnational organized crime.³⁵ The experts offer legal assistance and resources that encourage cooperation among bilateral, regional, and multilateral activities and initiatives. The organization facilitate the exchange of experiences among the Parties States and identify challenges while disseminating information geared toward good practices that strengthen capacity at a national level.</p>	<p><i>Austria, Canada, France, Italy, Japan, Korea, Switzerland, the UK and the United States</i></p>
<p>The West African Network of Central Authorities and Prosecutors (WACAP 2013) with the Economic Community for West African States</p>	<p>WACAP is a regional organization in West Africa that promotes mutual legal assistance among magistrates across countries. The main purpose of WACAP is strengthening the capacity of prosecutors and central authorities combating all forms of impunity and organized crime, and facilitating regional and international cooperation.³⁶ It holds regular meetings, training programs, and enabling the relevant practitioners and central authorities exchanging information about procedures, respective legal systems, common language, and sharing good practices. The cooperation promotes better preparation and responses to mutual legal assistance requests, extradition, confiscation and seizure of proceed of crime. The organization also aims at developing and strengthening the capacity of the prosecutors that specialize in organized crime for successful prosecutions and cooperation at regional levels.³⁷</p>	<p><i>Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Cote d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo</i></p>
<p>Western Balkans Prosecutors' Network</p>	<p>One of the most crucial problems of the Western Balkans and hence for all of Europe is the serious and trans-border organised crime.</p> <p>The fight against organised crime is a challenge that obviously cannot be met at the national level only. Hence, the prosecutors-general in the region signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the prosecutorial cooperation and networking in the Western Balkans against organised crime on 30th March 2005 in Skopje and marked the establishment of the Prosecutors' Network.</p> <p>The project is implemented by a consortium consisting of the German Development Cooperation (lead partner; www.giz.de), the Netherlands Centre for International Legal Cooperation (www.cilc.nl) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (www.unodc.org). The project has a duration of 35 months (from December 2014 to October 2017).</p> <p>The overall objective of the project is to prevent and combat serious and trans-border</p>	<p>The countries of the Western Balkans:</p> <p><i>Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia</i></p>

³⁵ <http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/treaties/CTOC/CTOC-COP.html>

³⁶ <https://www.unodc.org/westandcentralafrica/en/newrosenwebsite/criminal-justice-system/wacap.html>

³⁷ https://www.unodc.org/documents/organized-crime/GPTOC/13-87039_WACAP_Leaflet_Ebook.pdf

	<p>organised crime and linked corruption cases with cross- border implications, as well as to dismantle criminal organisations involved in illicit trafficking destined to the EU, in particular trafficking in firearms, drugs and human beings. The specific objectives of the project are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To support investigations and prosecutions in serious and trans-border organised crimes• To strengthen the institutional capacities as well as coordination and cooperation mechanisms among the beneficiaries• To increase judicial cooperation between the Prosecutors' Network of the Western Balkans and the relevant European institutions	
--	---	--