

Slovenia

The Slovene State Prosecutors deal with more and more cases where their work depends in international cooperation.. When preparing our replies to the questionnaire we contact District State prosecutors and the Group of prosecutors for organised crime.

The main impression is that the state prosecutors haven't experienced significant difficulties when working with prosecutors or other judicial bodies in other European countries.

The main problems which have been noticed at our work are:

- Lack of knowledge of the steps to be taken,
- Lack of direct contacts
- Problems linked to translation
- Undue delay to gain required documents or information

Concrete cases:

Undue delay to receive the documentation for the cars stolen in Italy and seized in Slovenia. The storage fee represents a considerable expense for District State Prosecutors offices.

The personal data of owners of a large numbers of credit cards issued by different banks in Italy were needed. The problem was quickly resolved in contact and cooperation with national members in Eurojust.

The interrogation by the court in Germany has been required and realised by the judge in 40 days, but it took 10 month that the request has returned in Slovenia.

We had a direct cooperation with State prosecutors office in Czech Republic which we estimate as an example of a good practice.

The Slovene state prosecutor took over the prosecution of a Slovene citizen who in Czechoslovakia killed a Dutch citizen. The interrogation of the witnesses passed without any problems and without a delay, in the Netherlands with the cooperation with Eurojust.

The competent court of justice in Berlin took over the prosecution of two German citizens suspected the abuse of the position in Slovene-German corporation with its headquarters in Slovenia.

With the cooperation with national member in Eurojust, direct contact between Slovene and German prosecutor has been taken and estimate as good practice.

Regarding international cooperation between public prosecutors and other judicial bodies more efforts should be taken to improve it and make it with all possible speed. In our opinion the cooperation with Eurojust is of a great help. National member in Eurojust can facilitate the direct contact with competent body in other European country. Of course insufficient knowledge of language or legal instruments are sometimes a major obstacle for effective cooperation. We are looking forward to overcome it with permanent education of public prosecutors and good information of possibilities of the mutual assistance between competent judicial bodies.