4 April 2024

EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR THE EFFICIENCY OF JUSTICE (CEPEJ)

CEPEJ NETWORK OF PILOT COURTS

DRAFT ANNOTATED AGENDA

17th meeting

BELGIUM, Mechelen

10 April 2024, 9.30 – 17.30

Meeting with English - French interpretation

VENUE
LAMOT CONGRES – EN ERFGOEDCENTRUM
Van Beethovenstraat 8/10
2800 Mechelen
BELGIUM

The aim of this meeting is three-fold:

1. **inform pilot courts of the CEPEJ tools recently adopted**

2. **gather feedback of pilot courts on the ongoing work of the CEPEJ**

3. **exchange of experiences among pilot courts on their practices**

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The meeting will be organised **around thematic workshops** throughout the day. The participants will meet in **the plenary** session at the beginning and the end of the meeting. You will be able to attend each of the workshops according to your interest in the different themes. You are encouraged to **alternate between workshops**. The workshop sessions will be held in the morning and in the afternoon. French-English simultaneous interpretation will be provided in the plenary sessions. The discussion in the workshops will be held in English. Where necessary, the consecutive interpretation into/from French will be provided.

1. 9.00 – 9.15: Registration of participants

Venue : LAMOT CONGRES – EN ERFGOEDCENTRUM – Auditorium

2. 9.15 – 9.30: Group photo

3. 9.30 – 9.45: Opening of the meeting (Auditorium)

-   Opening speech by Francesco Depasquale, President of the CEPEJ

-   Opening speech by Paul Van Tigchelt, Minister of Justice of Belgium

4. 9.45 – 10.00: Work of the CEPEJ (Auditorium)

-   CEPEJ: main developments in 2023 and priorities for 2024 by Muriel Décot, Executive Secretary of the CEPEJ

5. 10.00 – 12.30: First workshop session (Cafeteria)[1]

You can choose to attend one or several of the following workshops:

-   **Workshop 1: Backlog reduction tool**
    The CEPEJ adopted the Backlog Reduction Tool in 2023. The pilot courts contributed to the elaboration of this tool by sharing their experiences in fighting backlog of cases. This workshop is a follow-up to the discussion at the 16th plenary meeting held in 2023 to see how best to implement the Backlog Reduction Tool.

    Moderators: Dimitrije Sujeranovic and Eva Konecna

    Key points for discussion:
    - ➢ *Does your court collect and analyse data to measure backlog of cases? If yes, please describe what kind of data and information is collected.*

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[1] The four workshops will be held in parallel with a coffee-break.

> - *The CEPEJ Backlog Reduction Tool contains a catalogue of measures to fight backlog that will be complemented by an on-line database of backlog reduction practices. Has your court implemented any concrete backlog reduction measures? If yes, would you be able to contribute to collecting practices for the database?*
> - *Does your court set up targets for reducing backlog and/or timeframes in which cases should be resolved? Does your court have a system in place to monitor the situation with the backlog and identify future trends and flow of cases to avoid its creation?*

Reference documents
> - [CEPEJ backlog reduction tool](#)
> - [Form to gather information on backlog reduction practices](#)

- **Workshop 2: Evaluation of the quality of work of judges**
  The CEPEJ-GT-QUAL is currently developing the draft guidelines on the evaluation of the quality of work of judges. The pilot courts shared their experiences in this field at the 16th plenary meeting held in 2023. This workshop is a follow-up to this experience-sharing with a view to contributing to the finalisation of the guidelines.

  Moderators: Wim David and Clémence Bouquemont Da Costa

  Key points for discussion:
  > - *What is the methodology for evaluating the quality of work of judges?*
  > - *What are the criteria for evaluating the quality of work of judges? How are they applicable in practice within your jurisdiction?*
  > - *What is your experience in using 360° evaluation?*

  Reference documents
  > - [Background note on the evaluation of the quality of work of judges](#)

- **Workshop 3: Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) in judicial systems**
  The CEPEJ-GT-CYBERJUST started working on a study on the use of Generative AI in the field of justice in view of its potential applied in controlled environments and its risks in uncontrolled settings. This workshop aims to collect experiences of pilot courts in this field with a view to contributing to the elaboration of the study.

  Moderators: Jeannette Verspui and Muriel Décot

  Key points for discussion:
  > - *How do you use Generative AI? If not, are there any developments or do you plan to develop it in your court? Do you know whether other courts in your country use Generative AI or whether there are any plans in at the state level to apply it in courts?*
  > - *Where do you see a reasonable use case of Generative AI in justice? Where do you see the potential of applying it in courts?*
  > - *What do you see as the main challenges in using Generative AI in the courts?*

  Reference document
  > - [Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) by judicial professionals in a work-related context](#)

- **Workshop 4: Evaluation of judicial systems**
  The CEPEJ carries out a regular process for evaluating judicial systems of the Council of Europe's member States. The aim of this workshop is to discuss with pilot courts some aspects relevant for the evaluation cycles. The CEPEJ-STAT will be presented at the workshop to show to pilot courts where to find data on judicial systems that may be helpful in their own practice.

  Moderators: Francesco Depasquale and Christel Schurrer

  Key points for discussion:
    ➢ *How can the CEPEJ evaluation reports be useful for your practice?*
    ➢ *How can you promote the CEPEJ evaluation reports in your court?*
    ➢ *How can the CEPEJ-STAT be useful for your practice?*

  Reference documents
    ➢ CEPEJ Evaluation Report and Country Profiles
    ➢ CEPEJ-STAT: Access to the CEPEJ-STAT dynamic database

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6. **12.30: End of the first workshop session**

- *Lunch break*

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7. **14.30 – 16.00: Second workshop session (Cafeteria)**

You can choose to attend one or several of the following workshops:

- **Workshop 1: Workload measurement tools in judicial systems**
  The CEPEJ-SATURN began working on a study on workload measurement tools in judicial systems. This workshop aims to collect practices of the pilot courts in measuring workload in their courts.

  Moderators: Alexandre Palanco and Eva Konecna

  Key points for discussion:
    ➢ *How do you measure the workload in your court? Do you measure the workload of judges as well as court staff?*
    ➢ *For what purposes is workload measured (e.g. assigning cases, assessing financial and human resources, etc.)?*
    ➢ *What are the important aspects of measuring workload?*
    ➢ *What difficulties did you encounter in measuring workload in courts?*

  Reference document
    ➢ Background note on workload measurement tools

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  Moderators: Clémence Bouquemont Da Costa and Wim David

Key points for discussion:

➢ *What is the methodology for evaluating the quality of work of judges?*
➢ *What are the criteria for evaluating the quality of work of judges? How are they applicable in practice within your jurisdiction?*
➢ *What is your experience in using 360° evaluation?*

Reference documents

➢ [Background note on the evaluation of the quality of work of judges](#)

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➢ *How do you use Generative AI? If not, are there any developments or do you plan to develop it in your court? Do you know whether other courts in your country use Generative AI or whether there are any plans in at the state level to apply it in courts?*
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Reference document

➢ [Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) by judicial professionals in a work-related context](#)

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Key points for discussion:

➢ *How can the CEPEJ evaluation reports be useful for your practice?*
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➢ *How can the CEPEJ-STAT be useful for your practice?*

Reference documents

➢ [CEPEJ Evaluation Report](#) and [Country Profiles](#)
➢ CEPEJ-STAT: [Access to the CEPEJ-STAT dynamic database](#)

8. 16.30 – 17.00: Debriefing from the workshops (Auditorium)

- Debriefing from the workshops

9. 17.00 – 17.30: Main recent developments in the pilot courts (Auditorium)

- Presentation by pilot courts of practices implemented in their courts or judicial systems: please do not hesitate to take the floor

10. 17.30: End of the meeting

- Conclusions by Paul Dhaeyer, President of the Commercial Court of Brussels, Belgium

11. Dinner