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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

Role and activities of the PC-OC
A short overview
As adopted by the PC-OC during their 62nd meeting

Assisting in and developing judicial co-operation in criminal matters

International judicial co-operation is based on three fundamental principles namely: spirit of cooperation, 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) plays an important role in international co-operation in criminal matters.

What is the PC-OC?

The PC (Problèmes Criminels)-OC (Operation of Conventions) is a Council of Europe committee of experts in the field of international co-operation in criminal matters working under the authority of the European Committee on Crime Problems (CDPC).

The PC-OC monitors the application of the Council of Europe conventions related to international co-operation in criminal matters (in particular extradition, mutual legal assistance and transfer of sentenced persons) 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.

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

National practitioners can take advantage of the expertise of the PC-OC Secretariat and its national experts.

Website

A website (www.coe.int/tcj) has been set up containing useful information and documentation regarding this co-operation. 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.

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);
- relevant case law of the European Court of Human Rights;
- archives of past activities, studies, papers and publications of interest;
- 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.