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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)

Catalogue of International Judicial Networks
of relevance in the fight against Transnational Organised Crime

	Purpose	Members
European Networks		
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 region¹.</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 infrastructure² (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 administrations³.</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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -It is an interagency network -Each member state is represented by a law enforcement officer and a judicial expert (prosecutor, investigation judge – depending on the legal system). <p>The representatives of the Member States are called 'national contact points'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -CARIN contacts support the complete asset recovery process <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 	<p>54 Registered Member Jurisdictions</p> <p><i>Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Gibraltar, 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>

¹ <http://www.e-codex.eu/pilots/secure-exchange-of-data/euregio.html>

² <http://www.e-codex.eu/home.html>

³ <http://www.e-codex.eu/news-and-media/news/single-view/article/euregio-starts.html>

	<p>-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 crime⁴</p>	<p>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>
<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 and Observer States 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 sentenced persons; supervision of offenders; international validity of judgments; and seizure and confiscation of proceeds of crime⁵.</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>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>Observer States</p>

⁴ <http://carin-network.org/>

⁵ http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/standardsetting/pc-oc/default_FR.asp

	A list of competent authorities for all other areas covered by the PC-OC is also provided on their website.	<i>Canada, Holy See, Israel, Japan, Mexico, United States</i>
Eurojust	<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 requests⁶</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> <p>Third States and organisations</p> <p>- <u>Cooperation agreements</u> <i>United States of America, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland, former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Ukraine</i></p> <p>- <u>Liaison Prosecutors</u> <i>United States of America, Norway, Switzerland</i></p> <p>- <u>Contact Points</u> <i>40 third States are part of Eurojust's judicial contact point network</i></p> <p>Partners</p> <p>- EJM, Europol, the European Union's Anti-Fraud Office</p>

⁶ <http://www.eurojust.europa.eu/about/background/Pages/mission-tasks.aspx>

		(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, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine⁷</i></p>
<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 matters⁸.</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 	<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</p>

⁷ <http://www.enpi-info.eu/ENI>

⁸ <http://www.ejnforum.eu/cp/>

	<p>assistance.</p> <p>Projects</p> <p>The EJN participates as an associated partner in the Project 'International Cooperation in Criminal Justice': The Western Balkans Prosecutor's Network⁹. The EJN is part of the steering committee of the project and provides input based on the experience of its network.</p>	<p>points of judges, prosecutors or other practitioners from judicial authorities in third countries. <u>See Annexe for a map detailing EJN's cooperation with third countries and other judicial networks</u></p>
Network of National Experts on Joint Investigation Teams	<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. 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 practices¹⁰.</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>
South Eastern European Prosecutors Advisory Group (Seepag)	<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.</p> <p>-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.</p> <p>-It is Composed of Prosecutorial Contact Points (PPF)¹¹</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>
Western Balkan Prosecutors Network (WBPN) Project	<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.</p> <p>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 Union¹².</p>	<p><i>Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia</i></p>

⁹ https://www.ejn-crimjust.europa.eu/ejn/EJN_StaticPage.aspx?Bread=14

¹⁰ <http://www.eurojust.europa.eu/Practitioners/JITs/jitsnetwork/Pages/JITs-network.aspx>

¹¹ <http://www.seepag.info/index.php?section=about&id=2>

¹² <http://www.cilc.nl/project/international-cooperation-in-criminal-justice-the-prosecutors-network-of-the-western-balkans/>

Non-European Networks		
<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 State.</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 crime¹³</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>
<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 extradition¹⁴.</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 sentences persons, the United Nations Convention on Transnational Organized Crime and the United Nations Convention against Corruption¹⁵. -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>

¹³ <http://thecommonwealth.org/media/press-release/commonwealth-announces-new-app-fight-cross-border-crime>

¹⁴ <https://www.oas.org/juridico/mla/en/>

¹⁵ <https://www.iberred.org/>

<p>Judicial Regional Platform of the Indian Ocean</p> <p>Judicial Regional Platform of Sahel Countries (SAHEL)</p>	<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>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 year¹⁶.</p>	<p><i>Comoros, France (Réunion), Madagascar, Mauritius and Seychelles</i></p> <p><i>Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania, and Niger, launched in Bamako</i></p>
<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 issues¹⁷.</p>	<p><i>Angola, Brazil, Green Cape, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, Portugal, São Tomé and Príncipe, East Timor</i></p>

¹⁶<http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/legal-tools/international-cooperation-networks.html>

¹⁷<http://www.internacional.mpf.mp.br/institucional/institucional>