



Strasbourg, 3 June 2025

CEPEJ-GT-EVAL(2025)12rev

**EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR THE EFFECIENCY OF JUSTICE
(CEPEJ)**

**WORKING GROUP ON THE EVALUATION OF JUDICIAL SYSTEMS
(CEPEJ-GT-EVAL)**

49th meeting
14 - 15 May 2025

MEETING REPORT

Document prepared by the Secretariat
Directorate General I - Human Rights and Rule of Law

I. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

1. The Working Group on the Evaluation of Judicial Systems (CEPEJ-GT-EVAL) of the European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice held its 49th meeting online on 14 and 15 May 2025, under the chairmanship of Jaša Vrabec (Slovenia). The agenda and the list of participants to the meeting can be found respectively in Annex I and II to this report.

II. 2026 CEPEJ JUDICIAL SYSTEMS EVALUATION CYCLE (2025 data)

a. Timeline and content of the Evaluation Report

2. The Group examines the revised version of the draft timeline of evaluation cycles (document CEPEJ-GT-EVAL(2025)2rev). The time required to annually publish the evaluation report based on the most recent data will pose a number of challenges for the countries, particularly in terms of data collection. They will indeed need to provide the data earlier, by the end of March (N+1), in view of their stabilisation in September following the quality control. The Group instructs the Secretariat to draw the attention of CEPEJ members and national correspondents to these changes as early as possible.
3. Concerning the content of the next evaluation report on judicial systems (document CEPEJ-GT-EVAL(2025)3rev), which will now be published at the end of the year, the Group instructs the Secretariat to establish the most appropriate procedure to successfully carry out the reform while ensuring greater visibility for the evaluation report.
4. The next report will be published in December 2026 and will consist of a brief presentation and analysis of European trends, an overview highlighting key indicators at the European level, enriched country profiles and the CEPEJ-STAT database. The Group agrees that the first in-depth thematic report on a selected topic, which will involve specifically developed questions for that report, will not be published in 2026.

b. Revision of the questionnaires

5. The Group examines the draft revised questionnaire prepared by the Secretariat following the 48th meeting of the CEPEJ-GT-EVAL (document CEPEJ-GT-EVAL(2025)1rev) and instructs the Secretariat to present a new version taking into account its discussions, to the CEPEJ members with a view to its adoption at the upcoming meeting on 4 and 5 June 2025.
6. The Group agrees that the revised questionnaire should undergo a testing phase by certain national correspondents and instructs the Secretariat to identify those national correspondents who could participate, ensuring representation of the various judicial systems depending on the topics covered. The Group also tasks the Secretariat with organising this consultation, if possible, before the summer.
7. The Group further examines the changes made to the section of the questionnaire concerning information and communication technologies ("IT section", document CEPEJ-GT-EVAL(2025)5rev). An "IT correspondent", responsible for completing this part of the questionnaire, under the responsibility of the national correspondent who will remain the unique contact person for the Secretariat during the data collection and quality control phases of all questionnaires, should be appointed by the CEPEJ member. The Group instructs the Secretariat to inform the CEPEJ members of this possibility at the upcoming meeting in June 2025.
8. The Working Group also examines the draft questionnaire on the specific modules which could be developed from the report published in 2027 based on 2026 data.
9. The theme of the first specific report could be "the attractiveness of judicial professions." This theme would require the development of specific questions, and the Group agrees to already integrate in the next questionnaire certain questions that could provide guidance for the future development of a specific module.

c. Reflexion on the creation of new indicators

10. The Group examines the document CEPEJ-GT-EVAL(2025)4rev containing potential indicators that could be developed as part of the analysis of European trends or country profiles. The Group agrees to continue this discussion at the next meeting in October 2025.

d. Ad hoc data collection on 2024 data

11. The Secretariat informs the Group of the opening of the ad hoc data collection of 2024 data, on a voluntary basis, for the 14 countries that are not concerned by the regional data collections of the CEPEJ (organised within the framework of the European Union Justice Scoreboard and the Dashboards for the Western Balkans and the Eastern Partnership countries). These data will not be subject of a dedicated evaluation report but could be published on CEPEJ-STAT.

e. Coordination with the collections for the European Commission (Justice Scoreboard for European Union countries, Dashboard for the Western Balkans, Dashboard for the Eastern Partnership countries)

12. The Secretariat informs the Working Group of the ongoing discussions regarding the possible harmonisation of the four data collection exercises and the potential impact on the revision of the questionnaire on evaluation of judicial systems on the questionnaires used for the regional data collections.

f. Support to National Correspondents and peer reviews

13. The Secretariat informs the Working Group of the publication of a “welcome kit” for new national correspondents (CEPEJ-GT-EVAL(2024)26rev1) on the dedicated page for National Correspondents on the CEPEJ website. This document will also be sent to new national correspondents after their appointment.
14. Support missions for data collection were organised in Cyprus (2 and 3 April), San Marino (24 and 25 April), and Switzerland (20 May).

III. PREPARATION OF THE 2026-2027 TERMS OF REFERENCE

15. The Group started reflecting on the future terms of reference of the CEPEJ-GT-EVAL that will be discussed at the joint meeting of the Working Groups of the CEPEJ next October and agrees to continue this discussion at a future meeting or through written exchanges.

IV. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

16. The next meeting of the Working Group will be held in Malta from 20 to 22 October 2025. Another meeting could also be scheduled on 24 September 2025, if necessary to finalise the documents before the opening of the next data collection in October 2025.

Annex I

Agenda of the meeting of the CEPEJ-GT-EVAL

1. Adoption of the agenda	
2. Information by the members of the Working Group and the Secretariat	
	Working documents
	Timeline for the preparation of the 4 evaluation exercises CEPEJ-GT-EVAL(2025)2rev
	Proposal for the content of the next evaluation report CEPEJ-GT-EVAL(2025)3rev
	Revised scheme for evaluating European judicial systems – 2026 cycle CEPEJ-GT-EVAL(2025)1rev
2026 European Judicial Systems CEPEJ Evaluation Cycle (2025 data)	Revised scheme for evaluating European judicial systems - 2026 cycle – IT part CEPEJ-GT-EVAL(2025)5rev
a. Timetable of the preparation of the evaluation report and the other evaluation exercises	Optional modules of the questionnaire CEPEJ-GT-EVAL(2025)6
b. Content of the evaluation report	Proposal of new indicators CEPEJ-GT-EVAL(2025)4rev
c. Revision of the evaluation questionnaires (main and IT) and the explanatory note	
d. Draft questionnaire for specific modules	
e. Potential new indicators	
f. <i>Ad hoc</i> collection of 2024 data	
g. Coordination with data collections for the European Commission (European Union Justice Scoreboard, Dashboard Western Balkans, Dashboard Eastern Partnership countries)	
h. Support to National correspondents and peer evaluation	
3.	Reference documents
	Welcome package for the CEPEJ National Correspondents CEPEJ-GT-EVAL(2024)26rev1
	Note on the evolution of the CEPEJ evaluation cycles CEPEJ-GT-EVAL(2024)28rev
	List of question Evaluation cycles/Scoreboard/Dashboards CEPEJ-GT-EVAL(2024)29
	General structure of the questionnaire CEPEJ-GT-EVAL(2024)30
	2024 European Judicial Systems CEPEJ Evaluation Report

	<p>Scheme for evaluating European judicial systems – 2024 cycle CEPEJ(2022)9rev1</p> <p>Explanatory note to the Evaluation Scheme – 2024 cycle CEPEJ(2023)2</p>
<p>4. Brainstorming in preparation of the next CEPEJ-GT-EVAL mandate and preparation of the next joint working group meeting in Malta (20-22 October 2025)</p>	<p>Reference documents</p> <p>Terms of reference of the CEPEJ-GT-EVAL (2024-2025)</p>
<p>5. CEPEJ Working Groupe on work-life balance (CEPEJ-GT-WLB)</p>	<p>Working document</p> <p>Ad hoc working group on work life balance CEPEJ(2025)1rev1</p>
<p>6. Any other business</p>	<p>48 Meeting report of the CEPEJ-GT-EVAL CEPEJ-GT-EVAL(2025)7</p>

Annex II
List of participants / liste des participants

MEMBERS

CROATIA / CROATIE	Martina VRDOLJAK Head of department for statistics, analytic and strategic development of Judiciary, Directorate for organisation of Judiciary, Ministry of justice
GERMANY / ALLEMAGNE	Simone KREß Judge, Vice-President of the Regional Court of Cologne
MALTA / MALTE	Joanne BATTISTINO Senior Manager, Ministry of Justice and Home Affairs, The Law Courts
SLOVENIA / SLOVENIE	Jaša VRABEC Head of the Office for Public Relations Supreme Court, Chair of CEPEJ-GT-EVAL
GREECE / GRECE	Victoria MERTIKOPOULOU Advisor, EU & Competition, Regulatory, Compliance, Kyriakides Georgopoulos Law Firm
TÜRKİYE / TÜRKİYE	Seçkin KOÇER Judge and Head of Department, General Directorate for Strategy Development, Ministry of Justice

SCIENTIFIC EXPERT

SWITZERLANDS / SUISSE	Christophe KOLLER Researcher, Director ESEHA, Centre for counselling and comparative analysis
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PARTICIPANTS

EUROPEAN EXPERTISE AND EXPERT INSTITUTE / INSTITUT EUROPEEN DE L'EXPERTISE ET DE L'EXPERT (EEEI)	Fabrizia BEMER International Judicial Cooperation office - Court of Florence, Bureau de coopération judiciaire internationale - Cour de Florence (15/05 AM) Jean-Baptiste Drouet , Expert Géotechnicien (15/05 PM) Priscilla PISANI Expert consultant (14/5)
COUNCIL OF THE NOTARIATS OF THE EUROPEAN UNION (CNUE) /	Suzanne KRAEMER Legal adviser

CONSEIL DES NOTARIATS DE L'UNION EUROPÉENNE (CNUE)	
EUROPEAN UNION OF RECHTSPFLEGER AND COURT CLERKS / UNION EUROPÉENNE DES GREFFIERS DE JUSTICE (EUR)	Wolfgang LAMMER Président de l'EUR
NATIONAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE CEPEJ / CORRESPONDANT NATIONAL DE LA CEPEJ	Michel DACCACHE Adjoint au chef du service-Service de la statistique, des études et de la recherche, Ministère de la justice, France

SECRETARIAT

Department for Human Rights, Justice and Legal Co-operation standard-setting activities

Muriel DECOT Executive Secretary of the CEPEJ / Secrétaire exécutive de la CEPEJ
Christel SCHURRER Secretary of the CEPEJ-GT-EVAL / Secrétaire du CEPEJ-GT-EVAL
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Sandrine LUTZ

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