

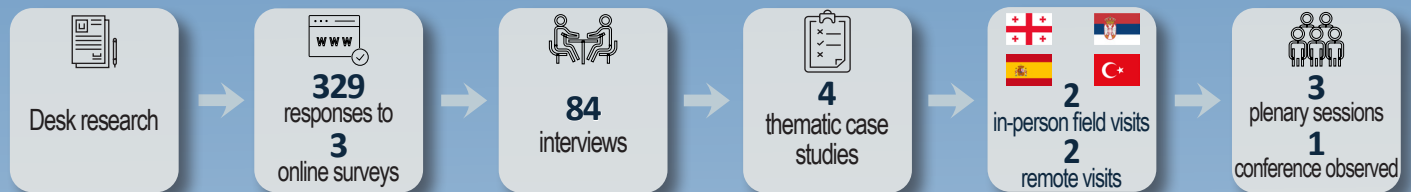
EVALUATION OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE'S INDEPENDENCE AND EFFICIENCY OF JUSTICE SUB-PROGRAMME (2023)



Evaluation questions

- To what extent was the sub-programme relevant, effective and efficient?
- What impact have the three evaluated bodies had in terms of contributing to the observance of Article 6 of the Convention in the Council of Europe member states and to citizens' enjoyment of their right to a fair trial as enshrined in this article?

Methodology



Strengths

The sub-programme work is highly relevant and generally effective

The sub-programme has been successful in delivering its outputs and in achieving immediate and intermediate outcomes

The implementation of the Article 6 of the Convention is positively affected by the sub-programme

Issues to be addressed

There is space for improvement and potential for increased effectiveness and impact of the sub-programme

The CCJE and CCPE require more resources to be able to respond to present needs and challenges more effectively

Human Rights Directorate

should establish a sub-programme co-ordination mechanism and develop a shared working and management space; designate a focal point for the Rule of Law and establish a consultation process with the Venice Commission secretariat.

Co-operation Programmes Division

should implement a more fitting organisational structure; introduce process to ensure limited overlap with other sub-programme bodies; strengthen engagement with civil society organisations and justice professionals at national levels.

The Sub-programme

should consider reformulating its Theory of Change; implement more tailored monitoring; translate opinions and tools into national languages.

RECOMMENDATIONS

CEPEJ secretariat

should clearly delineate its work to focus on efficiency and quality of justice; increase engagement and use of its pilot courts network and carry out an assessment for CEPEJ's services across member states.

CCJE and CCPE secretariats

should receive a budget increase in order to hold two plenary meetings per year; organise more in-person events for international and national networks of legal professionals.