

Strasbourg, 16 October 2026

CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL OF EUROPEAN PROSECUTORS (CCPE)

21st plenary meeting

15-16 October 2026

Room G03, Agora Building

Strasbourg

ABRIDGED MEETING REPORT

A. FOREWORD

1. The Consultative Council of European Prosecutors (CCPE) held its 21st plenary meeting on 15-16 October 2026. It was chaired by Mr Raymond Briscoe (Ireland), President of the CCPE. The list of participants is provided in Appendix I and the agenda is appended to the present report.

B. ITEMS SUBMITTED TO THE COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS FOR DECISION

2. The CCPE **invited** the Committee of Ministers:
 - a. to take note of Opinion No. 21 (2026) on providing support and safeguards for prosecutors in order to enable an efficient prosecution service, which will be forwarded to the competent authorities in member states, while encouraging its translation into appropriate languages, where necessary, and to the relevant bodies of the Council of Europe, so that they may take it into account in their work;
 - b. to take note of this report as a whole.

C. LIST OF ITEMS DISCUSSED AND DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE CCPE

The CCPE

3. **adopted** Opinion No. 21 (2026) on providing support and safeguards for prosecutors in order to enable an efficient prosecution service, subject to any editorial amendments by its Bureau, which was entrusted with making any such amendments, if needed, and ensuring consistency between the English and French versions;
4. **expressed** its appreciation to the CCPE members for their comprehensive responses to the questionnaire for the preparation of Opinion No. 21 (2026), reflecting national perspectives, indicating progress made but also highlighting concerns and challenges, which served as an excellent feedback for the preparation of draft Opinion No. 21 (2026);
5. **decided** to submit Opinion No. 21 (2026) to the Committee of Ministers for it to take note of, and to invite member states to ensure its dissemination as widely as possible among decision-makers and professionals of justice, including through translation where needed;
6. **welcomed** the continued close co-operation between the CCPE and other bodies and institutions of the Council of Europe, in particular with the European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice (CEPEJ), European Committee for Legal Co-operation (CDCJ) and the European Commission for Democracy through Law (Venice Commission);
7. **welcomed** the continued use of the CEPEJ and Venice Commission standards in the CCPE's Opinions and other documents, as well as the use of the CCPE standards and recommendations by the CEPEJ and the Venice Commission; **also noted** the continued references to CCPE Opinions by the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) in its judgments;
8. **took note** of the information provided by the Secretariat on that the annual reports of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe regularly highlight the standards of the CCPE is a tribute to the high relevance of its work in the wider architecture of the Council of Europe. Most recently, in the 2026 Report on the New Democratic Pact for Europe in Times of Rupture, reference is made to the CCPE's Opinion No. 20 (2025) on diversity and inclusivity within prosecution services, and the CCPE's thematic study in 2025 on the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in the work of prosecution services;
9. **took note** of the information provided by Mr Raymond Briscoe (Ireland), President of the CCPE, on the CCPE's activities in 2026 and his participation in various events contributing to higher awareness of the standards developed by the CCPE;
10. **took note** of the information provided by the CCPE members about their efforts to disseminate the CCPE Opinions and standards and promote their implementation at international and national levels, as well as information on various high-level events in member states concerning prosecutorial independence and impartiality;

11. **took note** of the information provided by the CCPE members on developments in their prosecution and justice systems, as well as in the field of criminal law and criminal procedure; **welcomed** the increasing use of the CCPE standards in this context and **noted** the particular relevance of Opinion No. 21 (2026) on providing support and safeguards for prosecutors to enable an efficient prosecution service in addressing many of the challenges identified; **noted**, in particular, concerns about prosecutorial independence and the functioning of prosecution services, including proposed institutional and legislative reforms raising constitutional concerns, questions about the organisation and independence of prosecution services, appointment procedures, and political interference; **also noted** debates in several jurisdictions on the potential impact of reforms and appointment processes on the independence and efficiency of prosecution services and the judiciary; **took note** of positive developments aimed at strengthening the organisation, independence, integrity and accountability of prosecution services, including changes in leadership, the establishment of specialised prosecution and asset recovery offices, integrity checks, and enhanced safeguards for reviewing prosecutorial decisions; **also took note** of efforts to combat corruption, organised and economic crime, environmental offences, human trafficking and domestic violence, as well as developments in asset recovery, specialised training and international co-operation, including with the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO); **welcomed** initiatives to improve recruitment, remuneration, professional training and psychological support for prosecutors, while noting concerns regarding their burnouts, demanding working conditions, inadequate human and financial resources and growing personal security risks, including those arising from exposure on social media; **also noted** the increasing use of artificial intelligence (AI) and digital tools in prosecution services, underlining the importance of secure systems, appropriate governance and training to ensure that technology supports prosecutors in their work, rather than replacing them; and **underlined** the importance of making the CCPE standards and Opinions accessible and promoting their implementation at national level;
12. **reiterated** that it remains at the disposal of the Committee of Ministers and other bodies of the Council of Europe (particularly the Secretary General and the Parliamentary Assembly) and of the CCPE members and observers to prepare opinions and other texts concerning the specific situation of prosecutors in member states;
13. **entrusted**, in this regard, the Bureau of the CCPE to prepare, adopt and publish such opinions and other texts concerning the specific situation of prosecutors in member states;
14. **confirmed** its intention to proceed in 2027 with the preparation of Opinion No. 22 (2027) on the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in the work of prosecutors, and **instructed** its Bureau and the Working Group of 2027 to prepare a draft Opinion on this topic for adoption at its 22nd plenary meeting in 2027;
15. **decided** to continue entrusting the Bureau of the CCPE with the organisation of the thematic studies of the CCPE, and organise in particular the preparation of the thematic study in 2027 on the topic of the interconnection of the work of prosecution services with the evolving media environment: progress and challenges, which will

update the CCPE work in this area and highlight the current situation as regards relations between the prosecution services and the media, in wider context of right of the public to be informed of the developments in the criminal justice area;

16. **appointed** Yeghiazar Avagyan (Armenia), Paulo Morgado de Carvalho (Portugal), Michael Leitner (Austria), Nanouk Lemmers (The Netherlands), Nicola Lettieri (Italy), Anna Ondrejova (Slovak Republic), Lars Otte (Germany), Peter Paul Portelli (Malta), Horatiu Razvan Radu (Romania) as members, and Francisco Jiménez-Villarejo (Spain), Marion Langford (United Kingdom) as substitute members of the Working Group responsible for preparing the 2027 draft Opinion to be submitted to the 22nd plenary meeting of the CCPE;
17. **re-elected** Raymond Briscoe (Ireland) as President and Despina Kyprianou (Cyprus) as Vice-President, each for the second mandate (2027);
18. **re-elected** Onur Ustali (Türkiye) as a member of the Bureau for the second mandate (2027–2028), and **elected** Barna Miskolczi (Hungary) as a member of the Bureau for the first mandate (2027–2028);
19. **designated** Olga Lytvynchuk (Ukraine) as Gender Equality Rapporteur for 2027;
20. **expressed** its satisfaction with the timely implementation of its activities in 2026, and **thanked** all members and observers for their constant and active involvement in the CCPE's work as well as the Secretariat for its strong support in assisting the CCPE in fulfilling its mandate;
21. **decided** to hold its 22nd plenary meeting on 28-29 October 2027;
22. **decided** to hold the 40th and 41st meetings of the Working Group on 25-26 February 2027 and 20-21 May 2027, respectively.

List of participants / Liste de participants

MEMBERS / MEMBRES

ALBANIA / <i>ALBANIE</i>	Ms/Mme Ervisa HYKA - Online / <i>En ligne</i> Prosecutor, Office of the Prosecutor General
ANDORRA / <i>ANDORRE</i>	Mr/M. Ivan ALIS SALGUERO Procureur Adjoint, Parquet Général
ARMENIA / <i>ARMÉNIE</i>	Mr/M. Yeghiazar AVAGYAN Deputy Prosecutor General, Office of the Prosecutor General
AUSTRIA / <i>AUTRICHE</i>	Mr/M. Michael LEITNER Deputy Prosecutor General, Office of the Prosecutor General
AZERBAIJAN / <i>AZERBAIDJAN</i>	Mr/M. Sabuhi ALIYEV Director, International Legal Cooperation Department, Office of the Prosecutor General
BELGIUM / <i>BELGIQUE</i>	Mr/M. Erwin DERNICOURT Premier Avocat Général, Parquet Général
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA / <i>BOSNIE-HERZÉGOVINE</i>	Ms/Mme Gordana BOSILJČIĆ - Apologised / <i>Excusé</i> Prosecutor, Office of the Prosecutor General
BULGARIA / <i>BULGARIE</i>	Ms/Mme Raya Boncheva DIMOVA-TAFROVA Prosecutor, Supreme Cassation Prosecutor's Office
CROATIA / <i>CROATIE</i>	Mr/M. Josip CULE - Apologised / <i>Excusé</i> Deputy Attorney General, Head of International Legal Assistance and Cooperation Department, Office of the Prosecutor General
CYPRUS / <i>CHYPRE</i>	Ms/Mme Despina KYPRIANOU Vice-President of the CCPE / Vice-Présidente du CCPE Senior Counsel of the Republic, Office of the Attorney General
CZECHIA / <i>TCHÉQUIE</i>	Ms/Mme Jana ZEŽULOVÁ Deputy Director of Analytical and Legislative Department, Office of the Prosecutor General

DENMARK / <i>DANEMARK</i>	Ms/Mme Nina HJORTH Special Prosecutor, Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions
ESTONIA / <i>ESTONIE</i>	Ms/Mme Piret PAUKSTYS State Prosecutor, National Member for Estonia at Eurojust
FINLAND / <i>FINLANDE</i>	Ms/Mme Jenni KORVENMAA - Apologised / <i>Excusé</i> Senior Prosecutor, Office of the Prosecutor General
FRANCE	Mr/M. Jean-François BOHNERT - Apologised / <i>Excusé</i> Procureur Général, Cour d'Appel de Versailles
GEORGIA / <i>GÉORGIE</i>	Mr/M. Giorgi MIKAVA Head of the International Relations Department, Office of the Prosecutor General
GERMANY / <i>ALLEMAGNE</i>	Mr/M. Lars OTTE Deputy Federal Public Prosecutor General, Office of the Federal Public Prosecutor General
GREECE / <i>GRÈCE</i>	Mr/M. Sofoklis LOGOTHETIS Deputy Prosecutor General, Office of the Prosecutor General at the Supreme Court
HUNGARY / <i>HONGRIE</i>	Mr/M. Barna MISKOLCZI Prosecutor, Head of Department for International and European Affairs, Office of the Prosecutor General
ICELAND / <i>ISLANDE</i>	Mr/M. Helgi Magnús GUNNARSSON - Apologised / <i>Excusé</i> Deputy Director, Office of the Director of Public Prosecution
IRELAND / <i>IRLANDE</i>	Mr/M. Raymond BRISCOE President of the CCPE / <i>Président du CCPE</i> Deputy Chief Prosecutor, Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions
ITALY / <i>ITALIE</i>	Mr/M. Nicola LETTIERI Deputy Prosecutor General, Office of the Prosecutor General at the Supreme Court of Cassation
LATVIA / <i>LETTONIE</i>	Mr/M. Marcis VILUMS Head Prosecutor, Department of International Cooperation, Office of the Prosecutor General

LIECHTENSTEIN	Mr/M. Frank HAUN Prosecutor General, Office of the Prosecutor General
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LUXEMBOURG	Mr/M. Marc HARPES Procureur Général d'Etat adjoint, Parquet Général
MALTA / MALTE	Mr/M. Peter Paul PORTELLI Prosecutor, Office of the Prosecutor General
REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA / RÉPUBLIQUE DE MOLDOVA	Mr/M. Dumitru OBADĂ Prosecutor, President of the Superior Council of Prosecutors
MONACO	Mr/M. Mr Morgan RAYMOND - Apologised / <i>Excusé</i> Deputy Prosecutor General, Office of the Prosecutor General
MONTENEGRO / MONTÉNÉGRE	Ms/Mme Maja JANKOVIC State Prosecutor, Office of the Prosecutor General
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SAN MARINO / SAINT-MARIN	Mr/M. Vico VALENTINI - Apologised / <i>Excusé</i> Commissaire de la Loi

SERBIA / <i>SERBIE</i>	Mr/M. Branko STAMENKOVIC - Apologised / <i>Excusé</i> Public Prosecutor, Supreme Public Prosecutor's Office
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SLOVENIA / <i>SLOVÉNIE</i>	Mr/M. Drago ŠKETA Supreme State Prosecutor, Office of the Prosecutor General
SPAIN / <i>ESPAGNE</i>	Mr/M. Francisco JIMÉNEZ-VILLAREJO Head of the International Cooperation Unit, Office of the Prosecutor General
SWEDEN / <i>SUÈDE</i>	Ms/Mme Sara FRIEDMAN Senior Public Prosecutor, Office of the Prosecutor General
SWITZERLAND / <i>SUISSE</i>	Mr/M. Jacques RAYROUD - Apologised / <i>Excusé</i> Procureur Général suppléant, Ministère public de la Confédération
TÜRKIYE	Mr/M. Onur USTALI Member, Council of Judges and Prosecutors
UKRAINE	Ms/Mme Olga LYTVYNCHUK Deputy Head, Division for Cooperation in Criminal Proceedings of the Department for International Cooperation, Office of the Prosecutor General
UNITED KINGDOM / <i>ROYAUME-UNI</i>	Ms/Mme Marion LANGFORD - Online / <i>En ligne</i> Head of International Unit, Crown Prosecution Service

OBSERVERS / OBSERVATEURS

MEDEL - Magistrats européens pour la démocratie et les libertés	Mr/M. Paulo LONA Vice-President of MEDEL and President of the Portuguese Association of Prosecutors
MAROC	Mr/M. Mohamed OUKHLIFA Avocat Général, Chef de Département de la coopération, Présidence du Ministère Public

COUNCIL OF EUROPE SECRETARIAT / SECRETARIAT DU CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

**DGI - DIRECTORATE GENERAL HUMAN RIGHTS AND RULE OF LAW /
DGI - DIRECTION GENERALE DROITS DE L'HOMME ET ETAT DE DROIT**

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND JUSTICE STANDARDS / SERVICE DES NORMES EN MATIERE DE DROITS HUMAINS ET DE JUSTICE	Mr/M. Daniele CANGEMI Head of Department / <i>Chef de Service</i>
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	Mr/M. Artashes MELIKYAN Head of Justice Independence Unit / <i>Chef d'unité de l'indépendance de la justice</i> Secretary of the CCJE and CCPE / <i>Secrétaire du CCJE et CCPE</i>
	Ms/Mme Patricia COUTINHO Administrator / <i>Administratrice</i>
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INTERPRETERS / INTERPRETES

INTERPRETERS / INTERPRETES	Ms/Mme Pascale MICHLIN Ms/Mme Bettina LUDEWIG QUAINÉ Ms/Mme Clarissa WORSDALE
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