EUROJUST: AN ADDED VALUE IN THE FIGHT AGAINST ORGANISED CRIME AND TERRORISM

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28 EU PROSECUTORS/JUDGES

More Effective Coordination & Cooperation
Objectives

1. Coordination

2. Cooperation

3. Support
Operational coordination meetings

LEVEL I - Meeting

28 National Members

LEVEL II - Meeting

Concerned NM’s

LEVEL III - meeting

CONCERNED NAT. MEMBERS
+ JUDICIAL A/O POLICE
AUTHORIZED OF
CONCERNED COUNTRIES
On specific action day > **solution of possible issues**
(EAWs or searches, seizures)

**OBJECTIVES:**

- Coordination on judicial level during a joint action
- Power to take decisions during a joint action
- Having an overview on the achieved results during a joint action
- Common approach on press-release on the results of joint action
- Judicial support in own language
Joint Investigation Teams (JITs)

A Joint Investigation Team (JIT) is:

- An investigation team
- Set up for a fixed period
- Based on an agreement between two or more EU Member States and/or competent authorities
- For a specific purpose

Non EU Member States may participate in a JIT with the agreement of all other parties

An instrument of judicial cooperation most successful in the fight against cross-border crime
College Teams

- Presidency
- Casework strategy and performance management
- **Counter-terrorism**
- Trafficking and related crimes
- Financial and economic crime
- Judicial cooperation instruments
- Brussels: Council, Commission & EP, OLAF
- EJN & Liaison magistrates
- Europol
- External relations
Counter-Terrorism Team

- Organisation of Operational, Tactical and Strategic meetings
- Networking with Key Players Terrorism
- Legal Database
- Judicial Database
- Contact with Third States
- Financing of Terrorism
- Cyber Terrorism
- CBRN Terrorism

⇒ CENTRE OF EXPERTISE
Meetings

- **Operational Meetings**
  
  Increasing number of Multilateral Coordination Meetings
  
  Terrorism e.g. Madrid bombing, operation “KARI”

- **Tactical Meetings**
  

  (Extremist Islamists, PKK, returning Jihadists, LTTE, VSIE/T, Aspiring foreign fighters in Syria)

- **Strategic Meetings**
  
  → February 2005: US – EU Meeting
  

28 National Correspondents Terrorism + National Correspondent Terrorism Norway and United States
Eurojust Products

- Terrorism Convictions Monitor
- Maritime Piracy Judicial Monitor
- Contributions to Europol SOCTA & TE-SAT
- Strategic report *Enhancing the work of Eurojust in drug trafficking cases*
- Final report and Action Plan 2012-2016 *Eurojust’s Action against Trafficking in Human Beings*
- Report *Multidisciplinary approach against organised crime*
- External Newsletters: Counter-Terrorism, THB, Cybercrime, JIT, EPPO, Environmental crime, EAW

*All newsletters are available on Eurojust’s website: [www.eurojust.europa.eu/doclibrary/corporate/Pages/newsletter.aspx](http://www.eurojust.europa.eu/doclibrary/corporate/Pages/newsletter.aspx)*
RELATIONS WITH PARTNERS AND THIRD STATES
Cooperation agreements/MoUs - Overview

- **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)**
  - EMCDDA (2014)
  - Frontex (2013)
  - ICPO-INTERPOL (2013)
  - European Commission (2012)
  - UNODC (2010)
  - Iber-RED (2009)
  - CEPOL (2009)
  - EJTN (2008)

- **Cooperation agreement**
  - Moldova (2014)
  - Principality of Liechtenstein (2013)
  - Europol (2010)
  - OLAF (2008)
  - FYROM (2008)
  - Switzerland (2008)
  - United States of America (2006)
  - Iceland (2005)
  - Norway (2005)
Importance of Cooperation

• The importance of a solid base for cooperation
• Inside and outside EU
  – Police LO’s
  – LM’s
• Networks hosted by Eurojust
  – Genocide
  – EJN
  – JIT
• Cooperation with operational colleagues (Public Prosecutors, judges and police) is crucial
Cooperation with Europol

• Agreement between Eurojust and Europol (*New Agreement entered into force on 01 Jan 2010*)

• Focal Points (*Eurojust is associated to 20 FPs*)

• European Cybercrime Centre (EC3) (*Opened in Jan 2013*)

• Operational Coordination Centre (OCC) / Joint operations (e.g. Veto)

• Joint Europol-Eurojust Annual Report to the European Council and European Commission

• In 2013, Europol was involved in 53 Eurojust cases and 75 coordination meetings

• EU Policy Cycle (EMPACT – MASP)

1. Drug trafficking
2. Illegal Immigration
3. Trafficking in Human Beings
4. Fraud, in particular Missing Trader Intra-Community Fraud (MTIC) and excise fraud
5. Corruption
6. Cybercrime (including child sexual abuse images)
7. Criminal offences affecting the European Union’s Financial interests (PIF)
8. Organised Property Crimes
9. Terrorism
People smuggling & illegal immigration

- Investigation began in France in February 2012.

- The initial investigation, led by an investigating judge of the Juridiction Interrégionale Spécialisée (JIRS) of Lille, led to further investigations being initiated in Belgium by the Judicial Federal Police and in the UK by the UK Border Agency.

- Illegal immigrants were collected each night from parking areas in Belgium and France, and put on trucks that transported them to the UK.

- The network, located in France, Belgium and the UK with links into Greece and Turkey as well as into the Netherlands, had a highly sophisticated and complex logistical organisation, with the location of the base of operations shifting from France to Belgium.
The organised criminal network is believed to be responsible for attempting to smuggle between 20 and 30 illegal immigrants into the UK each day, with an estimate of 10 people successfully smuggled daily, accounting for approximately 4,000 illegal immigrants per year.

Eurojust supported the successful management of the case by holding two coordination meetings.

These meetings were followed by the signing of a Joint Investigation Team (JIT) agreement between France and Belgium on 25 October 2012. The UK joined this JIT on 4 February 2013. The JIT was co-funded by Eurojust via the JIT Funding Project.
People smuggling & illegal immigration

On 06 February 2013, a Joint Action was conducted by police authorities in France (Border Police PAF), in Belgium (Federal Police of Brussels, Federal Police of Brugge, local police of Vilvoorde, local police of Mons), and in the UK (UK Border Agency), and by judicial authorities in France and Belgium.

An Operational Coordination Centre (OCC) started at Eurojust at 06:00 hrs that day, run by Eurojust’s French, Belgian and UK desks with the assistance of the Eurojust Case Analysis Unit.

Europol deployed a mobile office to France for on-the-spot intelligence analysis.

A total of 36 persons were arrested, 2 European Arrest Warrants were issued, and 45 premises were searched.
Manure fraud

• 25/09/2012: Completion of an international criminal investigation concerning manure fraud

• Objective: collect evidence against one of the largest Dutch manure traders

• Suspected criminal organisation, committing forgery of documents and money laundering

• Profit of the illegal activities? €8-9 million

• The Dutch Food Safety Authority spent 2.5 years working on the case, making it the largest case of manure fraud ever conducted in the Netherlands

• 5 countries involved: the Netherlands, Belgium, Poland, Germany and Switzerland
• Eurojust was asked to coordinate the investigation

• A coordination meeting took place to discuss how the case would be handled

• An Operational Coordination Centre (OCC) was set up to coordinate simultaneous operations between judicial and police authorities

• About 200 people were involved in the investigation

• Detectives raided 4 locations. The administrations were seized, the manure silos were investigated and manure samples were taken. Detectives also raided 3 banks, administration offices and several foreign subsidiary companies.
Drug trafficking case (Playa case)

- Verdict 8 March 2013, Stockholm District Court
- Drug trafficking, smuggling from South America to Europe 2006-2010
- Stiff penalty, extensive confiscations

Eurojust’s involvement of decisive importance

Large amount of cocaine seized
Drug trafficking case (Playa case)

- Investigation into ongoing organised cross-border criminality (SE, ES, FR, and many other countries)

- The benefits of Eurojust’s involvement (facilitate cooperation and coordination)

Cocaine discovered in the sailing boat
Drug trafficking case (Playa case)

Many lessons learnt, e.g.:

- Cooperation in joint investigation teams (JITs)
- Freezing and confiscation
- Better understanding of important domestic legislation
- Eurojust, the experts in the field of judicial cooperation
“Lisbonise” Eurojust by

- Strengthening Eurojust’s governance structure
- Enhancing Eurojust’s operational capabilities and effectiveness
- Involving the European Parliament and national parliaments in the democratic oversight of Eurojust
Lisbon Treaty: Article 85 TFEU

Taking into account Eurojust’s specific mission and composition:

• Focus of National Members on core task of Eurojust: **casework**
• New Executive and Supervisory roles for the management of Eurojust in line with sound public governance
• Evaluation of Eurojust’s activities by EU stakeholders in streamlined manner and without interference in Eurojust casework
EUROPEAN PUBLIC PROSECUTOR’S OFFICE
Lisbon Treaty: Article 86 TFEU

• “In order to combat crimes affecting the financial interests of the Union,...”

• “...may establish a European Public Prosecutor’s Office “from” Eurojust.”

• “The European Public Prosecutor’s Office shall be responsible for investigating, prosecuting and bringing to judgment,...”
Eurojust new Premises

- Design of the New Premises finalised in 2013
- Construction phase began in July 2014
- Delivery is scheduled for December 2016
- Relocation is scheduled end Q1 2017
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