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euaa
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AGENCY FOR ASYLUM

CEPOL

The Justice and Home Affairs (JHA) Agencies' Network

2023





Justice and Home Affairs Agencies' Network

The Justice and Home Affairs Agencies' Network (JHA) was established in 2010, building on the inter-agency cooperation in place since 2006, with the aim to **facilitate** and **increase** inter-agency cooperation in the field of Justice and Home Affairs. Today, the Network is composed of **9 agencies**, all presented in this brochure. These agencies cooperate closely together on topics of common interest, on a bilateral, and multilateral level.



Meetings

To foster and facilitate inter-agency cooperation, Network members meet on a regular basis at horizontal and expert level to discuss recent developments, and to exchange knowledge and experience.



Tools and Products

Over the years, the Network has developed a set of tools and products (updated on a yearly basis) to map agencies' activities in different key areas of the JHA field.



Observers

To create a bridge and to keep each other mutually informed of EU policy developments and agencies' activities, the Network includes **5 observers** from the EU institutions - DG HOME, DG JUST, EEAS, GSC, and the LIBE Secretariat.



European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Training

📍 Budapest, Hungary

Who we are

Located in Budapest, CEPOL is the EU agency dedicated to developing, implementing, coordinating and supporting standardised and specialised training across the EU for law enforcement officials (police, border guards, customs and judiciary).

What we do

CEPOL aspires to be the EU hub for law enforcement training in order to provide officials with the skills they need to prevent and fight the crimes of today and tomorrow.

CEPOL works side by side with EU institutions, agencies and Member States, as well as with international organisations and partners, to ensure that the most serious threats are tackled with a collective response. For that purpose, CEPOL brings together a network of training institutes for law enforcement officials in EU Member States and supports them in providing learning opportunities on cross-border serious organised crime, law enforcement cooperation, information exchange and interoperability. By implementing international cooperation projects with third countries, CEPOL helps building trusted and equal partnerships that contribute to creating a strong European security ecosystem.



CEPOL's training portfolio encompasses onsite and online learning, exchange programmes, and scientific knowledge and research-based activities and products.

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Who we are

EIGE is an independent centre and the primary source for information on gender equality in the European Union. It contributes to making the EU become a Union of Equality, where women and men in all their diversity are free to pursue their chosen path in life, have equal opportunities to thrive, participate in and lead our societies.



What we do

To support the promotion of gender equality in the European Union, EIGE:

- Provides research, collects and analyses data on gender equality with an intersectional perspective;
- Develops methods to improve gender statistics and data collection;
- Communicates comparable and reliable data and information with a hope-based approach;
- Measures the state of gender equality both at EU and Member State levels;
- Develops methodological tools and provides technical support for gender mainstreaming in all EU and national policies;
- Works closely with the EU institutions, Member States, international organisations, NGOs, universities and experts, research centres, social partners and related bodies, the media and our sister EU agencies.

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European Monitoring Centre
for Drugs and Drug Addiction

European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction

📍 Lisbon, Portugal

Who we are

The European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA) is the leading authority on illicit drugs in the European Union. The agency's mission is to provide the EU and its Member States with independent evidence-based information on drugs to inform policy and practice.

What we do

The EMCDDA's long-term goals are to contribute to a healthier and more secure Europe. To achieve these aims, the agency brings together the human networks, processes and scientific tools necessary to report on all aspects of Europe's drug phenomenon. While the EMCDDA is primarily European in focus, it also works with partners from across the world.

Over the years, the EMCDDA has established surveillance systems for ongoing monitoring of the drug situation. Here, the European information network on drugs and drug addiction ('Reitox network') plays a vital role, providing the agency with national data for Europe-wide analyses. In cooperation with Europol and other partners, the agency also operates the EU Early Warning System on new psychoactive substances, which monitors and responds to uncontrolled new drugs that may pose risks to citizens. To keep pace with a rapidly-evolving drugs problem, the agency continually develops innovative methods and tools to enhance its preparedness and response.



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New legislation: On 2 July 2024, the EMCDDA will become the European Union Drugs Agency (EUDA), with a stronger mandate to tackle current and future drug problems.

Who we are

The European Union Agency for Asylum (EUAA) is an agency of the European Union mandated with implementing Member States in the package of EU laws that governs asylum, international protection and reception conditions, known as the Common European Asylum System (CEAS).

What we do

The EUAA acts as a resource for Member States in the field of international protection, with the ability to provide practical, legal, technical, advisory and operational assistance in many formats. The Agency does not replace the national asylum or reception authorities, which are ultimately entirely responsible for their procedures and systems.

In addition to providing training/ professional development and numerous technical support tools/ activities, the EUAA also deploys Asylum Support Teams to provide operational support to national asylum and reception authorities. It also assists third countries in capacity building including EU candidate countries in reaching CEAS standards.

The ultimate aim of the EUAA's work is to reach a situation where the asylum practices in all EU+ Member States are harmonised in line with EU obligations, meaning that an application of an individual in any of the EU+ Member States will always receive the same



result. Similarly, an applicant will always go through a similar procedure with similar conditions, no matter which Member State s/he applies in, and will enjoy the same rights, obligations and reception conditions.

How to contact us



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European Union Agency for the Operational Management of Large-Scale IT Systems in the Area of Freedom, Security and Justice

📍 Tallinn, Estonia

📍 Strasbourg, France

Who we are

We are in charge of the underlying IT systems that help implement the European Union's policies in the area of freedom, security and justice. We are The Digital Heart of Schengen.

What we do

Since 2012, eu-LISA provides long-term solutions for the management of the IT systems essential for keeping EU citizens safe within the EU's borders while, at the same time, upholding the principle of openness.

The Agency also provides training on the use of the systems (Eurodac, SIS, VIS, EES, ETIAS, ECRIS-TCN) to Member States, as well as insightful research in the fields of Biometrics and AI in order to ensure the services it supplies remain at the forefront of today's technological possibilities.

It works for the Europeans of tomorrow as a valuable partner and collaborator to the EU Institutions, the Member States, Industry, Academia and ultimately, the citizens of Europe.

It is making IT happen for a Safer Europe.



How to contact us



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EUROJUST

European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation

📍 The Hague, The Netherlands

Who we are

Eurojust, the European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation, is a specialised hub providing tailor-made support to prosecutors and judges from across the EU and beyond. By coordinating the work of national authorities in investigating and prosecuting serious cross-border crime and terrorism, Eurojust helps Member States keep Europe safe.

What we do

Working across 27 judicial systems is complex. Thanks to Eurojust's unique know-how, national borders are no obstacle to prosecuting criminals and getting justice done.

- In coordination meetings, Eurojust brings together prosecutors from all over Europe to work on cross-border crime cases.
- Eurojust supports joint investigation teams – logistically, financially and with expertise.
- From Eurojust's coordination centre, joint action days against criminal networks are steered in real time, with arrests and searches taking place simultaneously in multiple countries.

The Agency has a global network of Contact Points in over 70 countries worldwide, as well as several Liaison Prosecutors from third countries posted at its premises. Eurojust also hosts specialised networks and runs



several programmes and projects. Each year, Eurojust contributes to the arrest or surrender of thousands of suspects and the seizure or freezing of billions of euros worth of criminal assets. Moreover, the Agency helps to deliver justice to thousands of victims, ensuring their identification, rescue and protection.

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European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation

📍 The Hague, The Netherlands

Who we are

Headquartered in The Hague, the Netherlands, Europol's mission is to support its Member States in preventing and combating all forms of serious international and organised crime, cybercrime and terrorism. Europol also works with many non-EU partner states and international organisations.

Large-scale criminal and terrorist networks pose a significant threat to the internal security of the EU and to the safety and livelihood of its people. The biggest security threats come from:

- terrorism
- international drug trafficking and money laundering
- organised fraud
- the counterfeiting of euros
- trafficking in human beings.

What we do

Europol listens to what EU Member States need and analyses crime trends in the EU. The Agency supports investigations initiated by Member States, though Europol officers never arrest citizens or instigate investigations. Europol's work usually consists of dealing with crimes that require an international approach and cooperation between several countries, inside and outside the EU.

Over the years Europol has built up substantial experience in fighting drug trafficking, illicit immigration networks and trafficking in human beings, illicit



vehicle trafficking, cybercrime, money laundering and currency forgery. Europol is also the central European office for combatting euro counterfeiting.

Europol enjoys excellent cooperative arrangements with law enforcement partners in Europe and beyond. It also values its accountability arrangements which are among the most robust and transparent in the world.

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European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights

📍 Vienna, Austria

Who we are

The European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) is the EU's independent centre of reference and excellence for promoting and protecting human rights. The Agency collects and analyses data on fundamental rights to help make the EU a better place to live and work. FRA's staff includes legal experts, political and social scientists, statisticians, and communication specialists.



What we do

FRA collects and analyses comparable data to identify trends and developments in the area of fundamental rights. It also provides independent, evidence-based advice and assistance to EU and national decision makers. In this way, the Agency contributes to more informed and targeted fundamental rights policies and to better law making and implementation.

FRA cooperates with EU institutions, Member States, national human rights institutions, equality bodies, civil society organisations and other stakeholders. It works to convene and strengthen the cooperation between fundamental rights actors in the EU.

FRA also works to raise awareness and effectively promote rights, values and freedoms.

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Who we are

The European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex) supports EU and Schengen countries in the management of the EU's external borders. It specialises in border control activities, and shares intelligence and expertise with all EU and neighbouring non-EU countries affected by migratory trends and cross-border crime.

What we do

Frontex provides security and ensures safe and well-functioning external borders. It is the biggest and fastest growing EU agency. In practice, border management may include support on the ground and fighting cross-border crime, aerial surveillance and collecting information, identifying new technologies, help with return procedures, etc.

With the standing corps, the EU's first uniformed law enforcement service, as well as patrol cars, planes and boats supporting national authorities with border control, Frontex has become a true operational body of the European Union. Hundreds of officers are taking part in operations at the external borders of the European Union and beyond.

Finally, Frontex, together with other EU institutions and 30 European countries, is implementing ETIAS – a travel authorisation system for visa-free nationals – which further strengthens the EU's internal security while ensuring smooth border crossings of travellers.



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