



European Judicial Cybercrime Network - Newsletter

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WELCOME

The EJCN is preparing to meet again in the 15 and 16 June to discuss new challenges and a way ahead.

As digitalization of society and adoption of virtual assets progress rapidly, any crime can become “Cybercrime” and a basic knowledge of technology related issues is needed by all judicial authorities.

Technology is moving very fast, we need to run if we want to catch up.



“Maybe each human being lives in a unique world, a private world different from those inhabited and experienced by all other humans. . . If reality differs from person to person, can we speak of reality singular, or shouldn't we really be talking about plural realities? And if there are plural realities, are some more true (more real) than others?”

Philip K. Dick, science fiction writer, author of Blade Runner

THE NETWORK PAST AND FUTURE

The EJCN participated in the 26th EUCTF Meeting, held at Europol on the 26th March fostering the connection between the judicial and LEA networks dedicated to cybercrime.

On the 29-30 March 2023, the EJCN participated in the Second **U.S.-EU Expert Group meeting on Obtaining Evidence** via MLA from the U.S., represented by the Contact Points of Ireland and Spain.

On the 15th and 16th of June 2023, the **14th Plenary Meeting of the EJCN** will take place in The Hague, joining the EJCN Contact Points to discuss JITs in Cybercrime, the challenges of the Metaverse and cooperation with Crypto Assets Service Providers.

On the 26th of April, the EJCN presented its perspective in the EU Commission organized event “**Training on the Impact of Digitalisation on the Substance of Handled Cases**” focusing on the needs to improve a basic knowledge of cybercrime issues to all judicial authorities, create more specialized trainings and rapidly provide training on virtual assets related topics.

DATA RETENTION

As mentioned in the **Swedish Presidency Priorities in Justice and Home Affairs**, “to combat crimes committed online or planned and communicated using digital services, EU law enforcement authorities need access to readable information and electronic evidence, including encrypted data, from those digital services.” This commitment touches upon encryption but also data retention rules allowing judicial authorities to lawfully collect digital evidence.



In line with the [Council Conclusions of 9 June 2016](#) EJCN is supported by Eurojust.



The Data Retention Subgroup is reviewing its work on the data retention framework in the EU and a new deliverable on the topic will be produced in cooperation with Eurojust.

DIGITAL EVIDENCE

In cooperation with the SIRIUS Project, the Digital Evidence Subgroup is reviewing the “Country Fiches” on arts. 18. and 32 of the Budapest Convention. Please contribute with your reply.

The 2023 edition of the is under preparation, please contribute in case you still haven't done so.

CASE BUILDING

Fulfilling the EJCEN mandate of being a forum for best practices on cybercrime and promoting the use of Eurojust for international investigations, the **Subgroup members remain available to support colleagues developing coordinated investigations in cybercrime**. The activity of the Subgroup will be reviewed during the 14th Plenary.

TRAINING

On the 24th March, the EJCEN hosted a Master Class on how to gather evidence from OSPs in cooperation with Microsoft. New Master Classes will be announced during the 14th Plenary.

The EJCEN continues to cooperate with EJTN and CEPOL providing trainers to the events “Cross Border Exchange of Electronic Evidence” held in Budapest last April and Cybercrime and Digital Evidence (Basic), held in Lisbon in May.

A specialized training on cybercrime and digital evidence will be held on the 28/29 September in Sofia, **deadline for applications 1st July**. Full catalog of EJTN activities [here](#).

CRIPTO ASSETS

The Cripto Assets Subgroup is working on a 2nd Volume of the EJCEN Virtual Assets Guide, focusing on topics not previously covered, such as cooperation with Cripto Assets Service Providers and non-currency tokens.

CYBER NEWS

Judicial and law enforcement authorities in the Netherlands and Germany have dealt another blow to the use of **encrypted communications by criminal networks**. Eurojust and Europol have supported the dismantling of the **Exclu application**. More details [here](#).

Eurojust and Europol have supported a new coordinated action against a **fraudulent online investment platform**, which has so far cost at least 33 000 victims an estimated EUR 89 million. Two action days took place in March, during which five suspects, including high value targets were arrested. The operation is a follow-up to actions against the same online scam in 2021. More details [here](#).

Online market selling stolen account credentials to criminals worldwide was taken down in multi-country effort dubbed **Operation Cookie Monster**. The Genesis Market was a **criminal marketplace accessible on the dark web and clearweb** that sold packages of account access credentials stolen from malware-infected computers. More details [here](#).

Europol released the report “**ChatGPT - the impact of Large Language Models on Law Enforcement**” on the possible criminal uses of open Large Language Models (LLMs) in cybercrime, namely in relation to phishing and social engineering. Download the [full report](#). [Italy has banned ChatGPT](#) temporarily for now due to privacy concerns ([currently reinstated](#)). On 13 April 2023, the European Data Protection Board launched a [dedicated taskforce on ChatGPT](#) to foster cooperation on possible enforcement actions.

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[EJCN Support Team](#)

Feel free to share relevant news, cases and judgements on cybercrime or digital evidence. Please inform us if you wish to be removed from the mailing list.



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