

EJN REGIONAL MEETINGS 2016

Date	Host Country	City	Participant Countries	Topic/ Theme	Discussions
10 May 2016	Germany	Berlin	DE, AT, LU, FR, PL	Practical and legal problems after the implementation of FD 2008/909/JHA	<p>The 17th Annual Meeting of the German EJM Contact Points (and 5th Annual Berlin Regional EJM-Meeting) held in Berlin on 10 May dealt with the practical and legal problems after the implementation of the Council Framework Decision 2008/909/JHA of 27 November 2008 on transfer of prisoners. Thanks to the funding from the EJM budget the German hosts were able to invite guests from Austria, Luxemburg and Poland, who gave a very informative overview about the conditions for enforcing foreign judgements in their countries. In addition, there were reports from the French liaison officer in Berlin and his German counterpart in Paris, with whom the German EJM Contact Points are currently cultivating an extreme close and effective cooperation.</p> <p>The German organisers concluded: "we were once again very delighted to welcome the Head of the EJM Secretariat, Mr. Ola Löfgren, who outlined for us the work of the Secretariat in the past year. The annual meeting - as always - was an important and pleasant reunion with colleagues from Germany as well as EJM colleagues in other countries, that increased the mutual understanding and networking in the field of judicial cooperation in criminal matters."</p>
26-28 September 2016	Austria	Bregenz	DE, IT, SI, CZ, HU, HR, SK, PL (EU Member States) and Liechtenstein	Trafficking in Human Beings and Money Laundering - Regional implications	<p>The Austrian Contact Points convened a Regional Meeting of the European Judicial Network (EJM) in Bregenz (Province of Vorarlberg) on 26-28 September. The overall title of the meeting was "Border Rivers". Due to the geographical situation of the meeting venue in the neighbourhood of Germany, Austria, Switzerland and Liechtenstein the cross-border dimension is</p>

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					<p>obvious. Therefore contributions from Liechtenstein and Switzerland with regard to the obtaining of banking information and their system of remedies in cases of mutual legal assistance were of great practical value. The police showed the good neighbourhood cooperation, including the practical aspects of information sharing in a very efficient manner. A professor of criminal law teaching at Innsbruck University gave an excellent overview on the criteria for jurisdiction in trans-border criminal cases.</p>
13-14 October 2016	The Netherlands	Utrecht	NL, BE, DE	<p>Transfer of probation measures and alternative sanctions between neighbouring countries</p>	<p>On 13-14 October a working regional meeting was held with participants from the Netherlands, Belgium and Germany on the transfer of alternative sanctions. Participants came from various relevant professions, such as the Judiciary, Public Prosecution, Ministry of Justice, and Probation Services. The Council Framework Decision 2008/947/JHA on probation allows for a greater use of transfer of sentences. This meeting was held to inform each other about the practical working procedures within and between the participating countries. Putting words into practice was the motto of this meeting. The participants worked actively on case studies and simulations. After the meeting the participants were better able to understand each other's situation and better equipped in the future to deal with cases of transfer of conditional sentences, conditional release and community sentences. The meeting was organised by the international desk of the Public Prosecution Office in Haarlem and the International Office of the Dutch Probation Service.</p>

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20-21 October 2016	Portugal	Porto	PT, ES, FR	Enhanced judicial cooperation between the participating Member States	<p>On 20-21 October in Porto, the Portuguese Contact Points organised a regional meeting involving judicial authorities from Spain and France. The aim of the meeting was to discuss concrete problems encountered in bilateral cases; all participants (30 from Portugal, 5 from Spain and 2 from France) were invited to bring a list of problematic issues that were then discussed in 3 workshops. Final results as well as a preliminary intervention on the EJN and its added value, done by the Secretariat, were shared in a seminar format.</p> <p>The EJN Secretariat was represented in the meeting by Maria Joao Almeida Gomes, Secretariat Coordinator, who presented the latest developments in the EJN website and the new electronic tool for reporting the activities performed by the EJN Contact Points.</p> <p>The Portuguese organisers want “to highlight the fact that the core and aim of this event was nothing more nothing less than to address practical problems that still seem to be obstacles to daily cooperation between judicial authorities of the three States involved.”</p>
20-21 October 2016	Romania	Bucharest	RO, FR, IT, BE, SK (EU Member States), Republic of Moldova, Serbia, Montenegro, Turkey	Role of the EJN Contact Points in combating forms of serious crime. Setting a good example	<p>On 20-21 October the Romanian Contact Points from the Directorate for the Investigation of Organised Crime and Terrorism (DIICOT) hosted a regional meeting which gathered EJN Contact Point from the EU (Italy, France, Slovakia, Belgium), EU candidate countries (Serbia, Montenegro and Turkey) and the Republic of Moldova, in order to explore ways of dealing with serious crime cases with a cross border dimension.</p> <p>The meeting focused on a practical approach to achieve effective</p>

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			(candidate and third countries).		<p>results in investigating and prosecuting these types of offences, in particular as they fall within the competence of EJN and Eurojust. It was emphasised that the EJN Contact Points are the links between national judicial authorities in order to facilitate judicial cooperation in action to combat forms of serious crime. From this perspective, close and pragmatic cooperation at institutional and operational level between EJN and Eurojust is required.</p> <p>The meeting also turned out to be very useful for participating Romanian prosecutors and judges from Bucharest, Constanta, Ploiesti, Craiova, Pitesti and Brasov, who had the possibility to learn more. The President of Eurojust and National Member for Belgium, Michèle Coninx, and the Eurojust National Member for Romania, Daniela Buruiană, participated in the opening part of the meeting, highlighting the privileged relations between the EJN and Eurojust, based on consultation and complementarity.</p> <p>Ola Löfgren, Secretary to the EJN, and Florin Răzvan Radu, Seconded National Expert, represented the EJN Secretariat in the meeting, presenting the role of the EJN in fostering judicial cooperation, the synergies with Eurojust, as well as the work done by the Secretariat to improve the electronic tools available in the EJN website and to strengthening the cooperation with other judicial networks and third countries.</p> <p>about the role of the EJN and how the EJN can help them in solving their cases. The participants will disseminate the information learned at the meeting to their colleagues.</p>

