

EJN NATIONAL MEETINGS 2016

Date	Host Country	City	Topic/ Theme	Participant Countries	Discussions
3-4 October 2016	Romania	Bucharest	EJN - National involvement in the investigation stage of the criminal trial	RO	<p>The meeting was attended by 68 participants on the first day and by 65 in the second day, including 5 of the Romanian EJN Contact Points and prosecutors and other members of the Romanian Judicial Network. Mr. Augustin Lazar, the General Prosecutor of Romania, opened the meeting. In the opening speech he highlighted the necessity and importance of the international judicial cooperation nowadays, and emphasized the role of the EJN in speeding up the proceedings and overcoming the difficulties. The Romanian Desk at Eurojust was represented by the Deputy National Member.</p> <p>Presentations were held about the EJN in general and the activities of the EJN in Romania in particular, including the activities of the Romanian Judicial Network. There was information about legislation, tasks, competence, activity, statistics, the Secretariat and its tasks, the work of the EJN to enlarge cooperation with third countries and partner networks.</p> <p>On the practical side, the meeting focused on the Freezing Orders, the European Protection Order and the future European Investigation Order</p>
5 October 2016	Latvia	Riga	Exchange of information and best practices in practical cases of judicial cooperation in criminal matters	LV	<p>On 5 October, the first Latvian national EJN Contact Point meeting “Judicial cooperation - towards proportionality and effectiveness” took place in Riga, involving more than 50 participants (prosecutors, judges and police officers).</p> <p>The meeting was divided into three parts, where the first one introduced participants with a wide range of cooperation instruments and information systems like EJN, Eurojust, Schengen Information System, European Criminal Records Information System, the Swedish initiative tools, Europol, Interpol, that facilitate faster handling of cross-border issues.</p> <p>In the second part, participants were informed about the state of play on the new instrument – the European Investigation Order (EIO), and had discussions on the principles of proportionality and effectiveness regarding the European Arrest Warrant.</p> <p>The third part was dedicated to workshops where the practical application of both existing instruments and the EIO was discussed.</p> <p>Summarising the meeting, it was concluded that information on judicial cooperation tools should be spread also at the national level between all the websites of the Central authorities, including the list of persons for consultative purposes.</p>

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17 October 2016	Poland	Warsaw	5th national meeting of Polish EJN Contact Points	PL, CZ, DE	The meeting was the 5th national meeting of Polish Contact Points, held once a year since 2012. The main aim of the meeting was to discuss daily issues relevant to the EJN Contact Points work, but also to update participants on developments in judicial cooperation within the EU, taking into account new legislation, especially the upcoming deadline for the transposition of the EIO Directive, the jurisprudence of the CJEU in criminal matters, as well as new national regulations (e.g. guidelines on cooperation with the USA). Additionally, invited guests from the Czech Republic and Germany prepared presentations on the organisation of the EJN and ENCS in their Member States.
25-26 October 2016	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	London	Innovations and Update in Complex Economic Crime and Corruption 2015-2016	UK, AT, ES, PT, SE	<p>In London on 25 and 26 October, UK Contact Points and prosecutors from the UK's Serious Fraud Office welcomed Contact Points and other specialist prosecutors from Spain, Portugal, Austria, Sweden, Scotland and Guernsey to a practical meeting to consider best practice and cooperation in prosecuting complex economic crime.</p> <p>The meeting met its main aims to: improve cohesion between Contact Points on matters relating to complex economic crime, by sharing recent developments and promoting best practice, including discussions of overarching issues relating to the operation of MLA in the respective jurisdictions of the participants of the meeting; promote Contact Points' engagement with the EJN; increase understanding about the EJN website and the available tools; and generate ideas for their better utilisation and future development of the EJN website including making available within the website more material relevant to serious economic crime.</p> <p>Speakers from the different jurisdictions gave presentations covering the most important matters and difficult areas that required further elaboration. There were very useful discussions following each presentation.</p> <p>The meeting had also separate sessions looking at the EJN website and how this could be used to present information of the type shared at the meeting, and sharing experiences of using the instruments for the mutual recognition of confiscation and freezing orders. To this end, the Secretary to the EJN, Ola Löfgren, presented the latest developments and the work done by the Secretariat to continuously update and enhance the EJN e-tools.</p>