

EJN National Meetings 2011-2018

DATE	HOST COUNTRY	HOST CITY	GUEST MEMBER STATES & OTHER PARTICIPANTS	TITLE/ TOPICS	AGENDA/DISCUSSIONS
04-Oct-11	The Netherlands	Utrecht	Ministry of Security and Justice, DJI (The Custodial Agency), OM (The Prosecutors Office), 3RO (Probation Agencies), KMAR (Border Police), AIRS (the present Agency within the Ministry that process transfer cases), ZM (the Council for Magistrates), Ministry of Foreign Affairs and CJIB (an agency that supports the work processes of several justice organisations).	Simulation of the Framework Decision 2008/909/JHA	The aim of this meeting was to simulate on a national scale the complete process of mutual recognition and transfer of criminal judgments concerning prisoners with all national partners involved. During the meeting several fictive cases were processed by all the official authorities and organizations relevant for each specific case. Both processes for incoming and departing prisoners were tested as well as the fictive contact (and the possible cooperation issues) with the other Member States.
11-Oct-11	The Netherlands	Utrecht	Ministry of Security and Justice, OM (The Prosecutors Office), 3RO (Probation Agencies), ZM (the Council for Magistrates), Ministry of Foreign Affairs and CJIB (an agency that supports the work processes of several justice organizations).	Simulation of Framework Decision 2008/947/JHA	This aim of the meeting was to simulate on a national scale the complete process of mutual recognition and transfer of criminal judgments concerning alternative sanctions with all national partners involved. During the meeting several fictive cases were processed by all the official authorities and organizations relevant for each specific case. Key element in the meeting was 'transposition/translation' of national sanctions in to sanctions applicable in the member state performing the supervision on the transferred probation. Another key element was the interaction and sharing of information between the relevant organizations.

EJN National Meetings 2011-2018

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17-20 Oct 2011	Spain	Aguilas (Murcia)	General Council for the Judiciary, Ministry of Justice, Spanish Network of Specialized Prosecutors in the field of international legal Assistance, Spanish Network of Specialized Court Registrars, Spanish LM in Morocco, LMs to ES from FR, IT and Morocco, INTERPOL, ES National Member to EUROJUST	EAW; Updating of the "Prontuario"; Instruments of mutual recognition in criminal matters within the EU	The XI annual meeting comprised common activities to both civil and criminal division of the Spanish Judicial Network and also specific activities to each division. The first and last joint sessions for the members of the networks and other participants were devoted to the presentation of the agenda, outcome of the workshops and the joint conclusions. With regard to criminal justice, four workshops were held on the following topics: EAW, updating of the <i>prontuario</i> : templates and new instruments, new layout of the <i>prontuario</i> , and on mutual recognition instruments.
12-13 May 2012	Finland	Helsinki	Ministry of Justice, court system, prosecution and National Bureau of Investigation, Finnish National Desk of Eurojust	Meeting of the Finnish EJN Contact Points	The meeting was a third national meeting of Finnish Contact Points since 2008. The aim of the meeting was to provide a platform for networking and to update the participants on daily issues.

EJN National Meetings 2011-2018

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10-12 Oct 2012	Romania	Sibiu	National authorities, EJN Secretariat	Implementing Framework Decisions 2008/947/JHA and 2008/909/JHA into national law	The main topics on the agenda were the two Council Framework Decisions that were soon to be implemented by Romania. It was concluded that the application of the 2008/909/JHA would bring an added value to the already existing legal framework, from the perspective of the application of the principle of MR of judgments in criminal matters in the field of transfer of sentenced persons. The debates on the application of FD 2008/947/JHA were centred on the correspondence between the probation measures regulated by the FD and the ones existing in the national legislation. It was concluded that for that moment the application field would be quite limited, since RO Criminal Code did not include all the probation measures and alternative sanctions in the FD.
28-Sep-12	United Kingdom	London	IT, ES, UK Central Authority (UKCA), the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS), the Serious Organised Crime Agency (SOCA), HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC), the Crown Office (for Scotland), the Crown Dependencies (the Isle of Man, Guernsey and Jersey), UK Liaison Magistrates to France, UK National Desk of Eurojust.	Improving cohesion between UK EJN Contact Points; Increasing understanding of EJN and the role of Contact Points; MLA issues in the UK	The aim of the meeting was three-fold: to improve cohesion between UK EJN Contact Points, to increase understanding about the EJN and the role of CP, and to facilitate discussion of MLA issues in the UK. During the first part of the meeting it was discussed on how to improve the functioning of EJN internally. The afternoon session was linked to more general MLA discussion and discussions relevant to non-Contact Point members of the CPs.

EJN National Meetings 2011-2018

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12-Oct-12	Belgium	Brussels	National Network on International Cooperation in Criminal Matters, EJN Secretariat, EU Presidency	EJN Contact Points' meeting with contact points from National Network on International Cooperation in Criminal matters	The purpose of the meeting was to raise awareness of the functions and tools of the EJN and to provide availability for the Contact Points of both networks to interact and consequently enhance judicial cooperation. The content of Belgian <i>Fiches Belges</i> was discussed as well as practical use of EJN legal instruments e.g. national law implementing EU legislation in practice.
12-13 May 2014	Germany	Berlin	FR, AT, PL, EJN Secretariat, IBERRED, EUROJUST	15th Annual meeting of the German EJN Contact points and 3rd Annual Berlin-regional meeting	The aim of the meeting was to provide a platform for networking and to update the participants on daily practical issues relevant to EJN Contact Points.
11-12 Sep 2014	Romania	Bucharest	RO National Desk of Eurojust	European Judicial Network and Eurojust: consultation and complementarity	The purpose was to facilitate and enhance cooperation between the EJN contact points and Romanian national desk at Eurojust, and of both EJN and Eurojust with the national judges and prosecutors. The roles of EJN and Eurojust were explained to the participants in order to stimulate their cooperation. A particular attention was paid to the relation between EJN and Eurojust in order to assess their particularities and complementarity from the operational point of view.

EJN National Meetings 2011-2018

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10-Nov-15	France	Paris	National authorities, French LMs	5th meeting of the French EJN Contact Points	The aim of the 5th annual meeting of French EJN Contact Points was to gather the EJN Contact Points and representatives from other judicial authorities as well as Liaison Magistrates, including those with an experience outside the EU. Previous meetings of French EJN Contact Points had taken place in 2007, 2009, 2010 and 2011. During the meeting daily business of EJN Contact Points and the functioning of the EJN (including the tools on the EJN website) were discussed. Also, the role of different actors in the field of judicial cooperation was presented in a tour de table. Finally, discussions took place on the state of play of national legal instruments with regard to judicial cooperation of criminal matters.
24-25 Sep 2014	Portugal	Lisbon	Coordinators of the new territorial jurisdictions	National Meeting of the EJN Portuguese Contact Points	It was concluded that the judicial training on MR instruments is highly important for the practitioners as judicial cooperation should be identified as part of their daily work. Bodies like EJN should be used as a way to identify and solve previous and actual problems related to issuing and execution the requests. In this respect practical information made available by EJN, contributes to good progress of the judicial cooperation. Also, in order to take into account peculiarities in the regions, local contact points should also get specialized training and consequently could be able to assist the local judicial authorities. Finally, the identification of Contact Points in the Courts of Appeal should also be considered.

EJN National Meetings 2011-2018

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21- 23 Oct 2015	Bulgaria	Batak	EJN Secretariat, International operational directorate in Ministry of Interior – Interpol and Schengen, network of judges for international legal cooperation in criminal matters, Eurojust and prosecutors from International Department at Supreme cassation prosecution office	Regular national meeting of EJN Contact Points together with the Internal network among prosecutors for mutual legal assistance in the prosecution office	Meeting focused on raising the awareness of the EJN and its operational tools among the members of the Internal prosecutor's network for international legal cooperation. During the meeting also the role and the functions of the ENCS in the cooperation between Eurojust were presented. Best practices between CPs were discussed in practical cases of judicial cooperation e.g. the criteria how to choose one of the legal instruments in the daily work on the field of mutual legal assistance in criminal cases. Overall, it was agreed that the EJN website will be updated regularly, all the prosecutors from the internal network have to know how to work "in deep" with the EJN website and the tools to give support to all other prosecutors around the country; CP attending Plenary meetings will be expected to prepare a summary note of the meeting to circulate amongst CP; and they must inform all the members if the Internal network for the new trends, legal tools and best practices of EJN.

EJN National Meetings 2011-2018

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3-4 Oct 2016	Romania	Bucharest	RO	EJN – National involvement in the investigation stage of the criminal trial	<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>

EJN National Meetings 2011-2018

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5 Oct 2016	Latvia	Riga	LV	<p style="text-align: center;">Exchange of information and best practices in practical cases of judicial cooperation in criminal matters</p>	<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>

EJN National Meetings 2011-2018

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17 Oct 2016	Poland	Warsaw	PL, CZ, DE	5th National meeting of Polish EJN Contact Points	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, 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 Oct 2016	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	London	UK, AT, ES, PT, SE	Innovations and Update in Complex Economic Crime Corruption 2015-2016	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. 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

EJN National Meetings 2011-2018

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					<p>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. 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>

EJN National Meetings 2011-2018

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16 May 2017	Lithuania	Vilnius	LT, EJN	EJN Assistance in legal cooperation	<p>The meeting was the 1st National Meeting of EJN Contact Points of Lithuania organised by the Ministry of Justice. There were representatives from the Ministry of Justice, Prosecutor General's Office, regional prosecutors, judges and their assistants, county courts.</p> <p>The meeting aimed at discussing and exchanging experience on relevant issues of judicial cooperation in criminal matters. After an overview of the EJN and its website tools, Contact Points were informed about the introduction of the EIO directive and the main changes that this instrument would bring in comparison with the MLA regime and mutual recognition instruments. Experience was shared also in relation to the application of the EAW. Implications of hearing by videoconference in criminal matters were also a topic of debate.</p>
28 Sept 2017	Belgium	Ruisbroek	BE, EJN	Increase the networking among practitioners – raise awareness about the work of EJN and its tools	<p>The 3rd Belgian national EJN meeting involved more than 50 participants. The meeting intended to increase networking among practitioners, raise awareness about the work of EJN and its tools as well as to exchange information and practices in the practical and legal context of judicial cooperation.</p> <p>The meeting focused on discussing experience with the application of the EIO and the European Criminal Records Information System (ECRIS). Also, an evaluation of the impact of the renewed judicial landscape in Belgium on judicial cooperation in criminal matters was carried out, since the Belgian decision to narrow down the number of judicial regions. Lastly, awareness was raised about the work of the EJN, its website and its tools.</p>

EJN National Meetings 2011-2018

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7-8 May 2018	Portugal	Aveiro	PT, EJN	<p>Internal organization of National Contact Points. Practical application of Directive 2014/41/EU. Encouragement of judicial authorities on starting JITs</p>	<p>On the first day the internal organisation of the EJN Contact Points was discussed and how to perform the tasks of updating the “Fiches Belges”, the Atlas and other areas of the EJN website.</p> <p>On the second day the role of several networks of the EU was discussed. Focus was also put on problems regarding the execution of the EIO and judicial cooperation with Spain.</p> <p>Main conclusions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The negotiation of instruments of international cooperation should involve as much as possible those who will make use of them and have experienced previous difficulties or obstacles in its field of application; • Portuguese judicial authorities are still quite unfamiliar with JITs. Having in mind its added value, the setting up of a JIT should be encouraged and monitored in order to be used as a case study, with relevant sharing of best practices; • There is a need to formalise the Portuguese network of regional contact points, in order to give them legitimacy towards their colleagues and harmonize their activities across the country; • Meetings like this should always include concrete cases to be discussed by the participating authorities with the aim of finding the appropriate solutions; • Training sessions of local authorities as well as sharing of best practices and identification of main problems on the EIO should be organised.

EJN National Meetings 2011-2018

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5 October 2018	Spain	Barcelona	ES, EJN	European Investigation Order	<p>The meeting was attended by 26 national authorities (prosecutors and judges), all of them EJN Contact Points or members of the domestic networks of specialised prosecutors and judges.</p> <p>The objective of the meeting was two-fold:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. to analyse and evaluate the difficulties, problems and drawbacks identified in the initial period of implementation of the EIO in order to gain knowledge on how the system works in practice and find ways for a more efficient cooperation; 2. to tackle all aspects related to the distribution of competences between prosecutors and judges as executing authorities. <p>A fruitful debate took place during the meeting, at the end of which a number of relevant conclusions (included in the meeting report available on the EJN website) were reached.</p>