



THE JITs NETWORK SECRETARIAT: ENHANCING EXPERTISE ON JITs

***EUROMED JUSTICE LAUNCHING
CONFERENCE
3 February 2021***

The EU Network of National Experts on JITs

The JITs Network

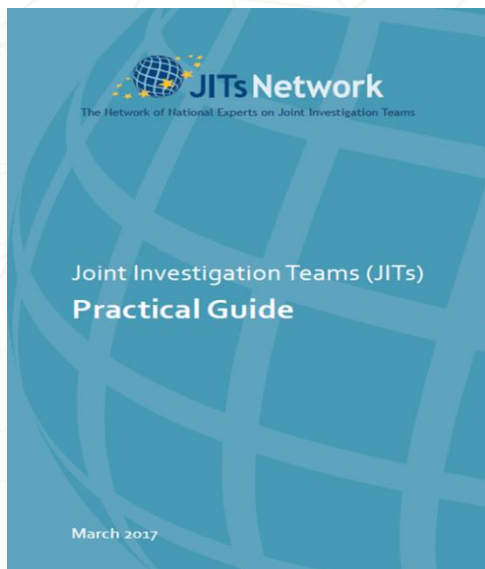


Main projects carried out by the JITs Network Secretariat

- ✓ **JITs Practical Guide**
- ✓ **Revised JIT Model Agreement**
- ✓ ***Fiches Espagnoles***
- ✓ **JIT Evaluation Project**
- ✓ **Training for JIT practitioners**
- ✓ **The JITs Restricted area and the JIT Portal**

Supporting tools accessible on Eurojust/Europol website

JITs Practical Guide



Model Agreement

19.3.2010 ☐ EN Official Journal of the European Union C 70/3

ANNEX

MODEL AGREEMENT ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A JOINT INVESTIGATION TEAM
In accordance with Article 13 of the Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters between the Member States of the European Union of 20 May 2000⁽¹⁾ (hereinafter referred to as the Convention) and the Council Framework Decision of 13 June 2002 on joint investigation teams⁽²⁾ (hereinafter referred to as the Framework Decision)

1. Parties to the Agreement
The following parties have concluded an agreement on the setting up of a joint investigation team, hereinafter referred to as the JIT:

1. (Name of the first competent agency/administration of a Member State as a Party to the agreement)

and

2. (Name of the second competent agency/administration of a Member State as a party to the agreement)

3. (Name of the last competent agency/administration of a Member State party to the agreement)

The parties to the agreement may decide by common agreement to invite other Member State agency(ies)/administration(s) to become parties to this agreement. The parties, arrangements, with third countries, bodies, competent by virtue of directives adopted within the Framework of the Treaty and International bodies involved in the activities of the JIT, see Appendix 1.

2. Purpose of the JIT
The agreement shall cover the setting up of a JIT for the following purpose:

Description of the specific purpose of the JIT. This should include the circumstances of the crime(s) being investigated (date, place and nature).

The parties may redefine the specific purpose of the JIT by common agreement.

3. Approach
The parties to the agreement may agree on an operational action plan (OAP) setting out the orientations according to which the purpose of the JIT is to be achieved⁽³⁾.

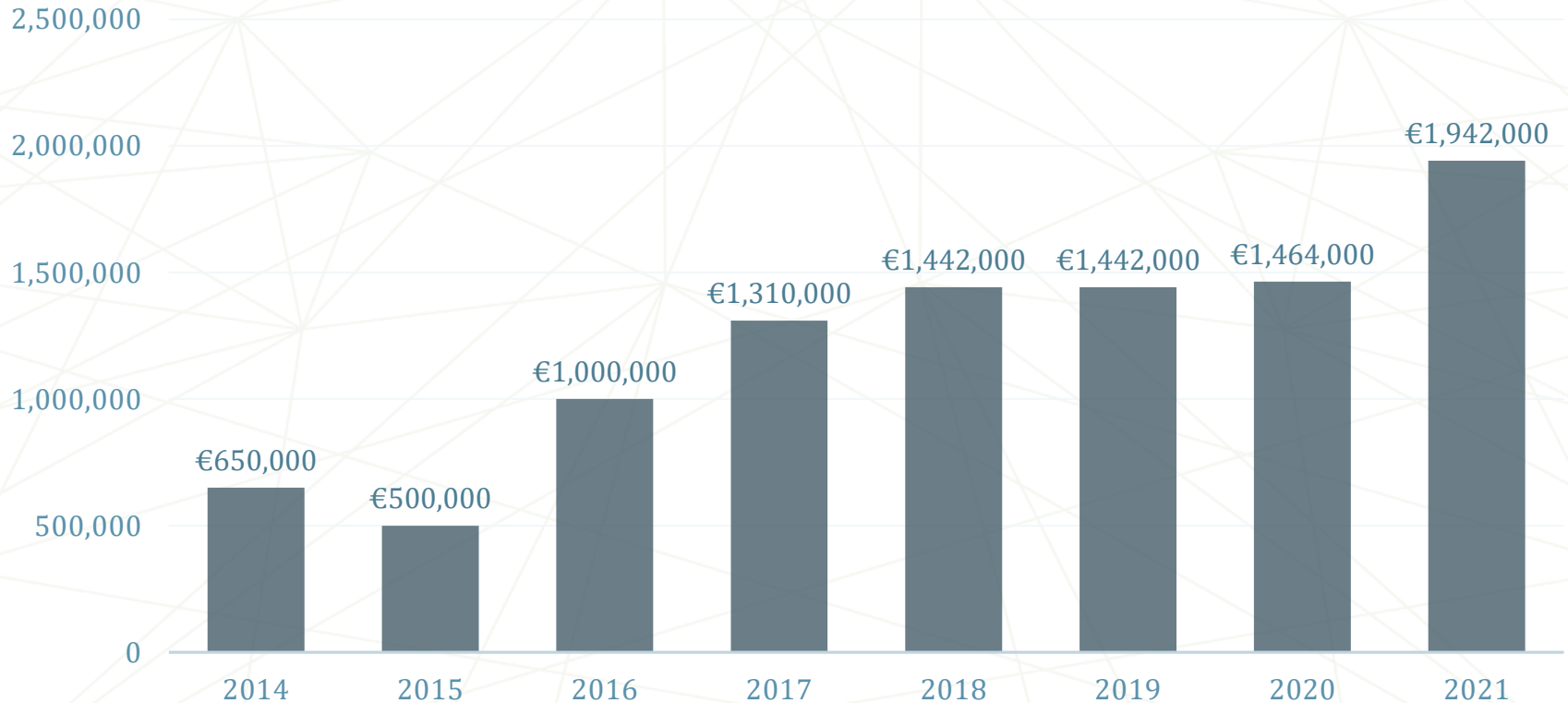
4. Period covered by the agreement
In accordance with Article 13(5) of the Convention and Article 1(1) of the Framework Decision, JITs shall be set up for a limited period of time. With respect to this agreement, the JIT may operate during the following period:

(1) OJ C 147, 12.7.2000, p. 3.
(2) OJ L 157, 20.5.2002, p. 1.
(3) In the light of the obligation to exchange information and its disclosure requirements, the OAP must be included in the JIT agreement or in an appendix to the agreement or in the minutes of the JIT. The OAP must also be available to the competent authorities concerned in a clear and concise manner and be used to achieve the purpose of the JIT set out in Article 2, including the practical arrangements set out in the OAP. For simplifying the points raised in the possible context of the OAP is set out in Appendix 1 to the model agreement.

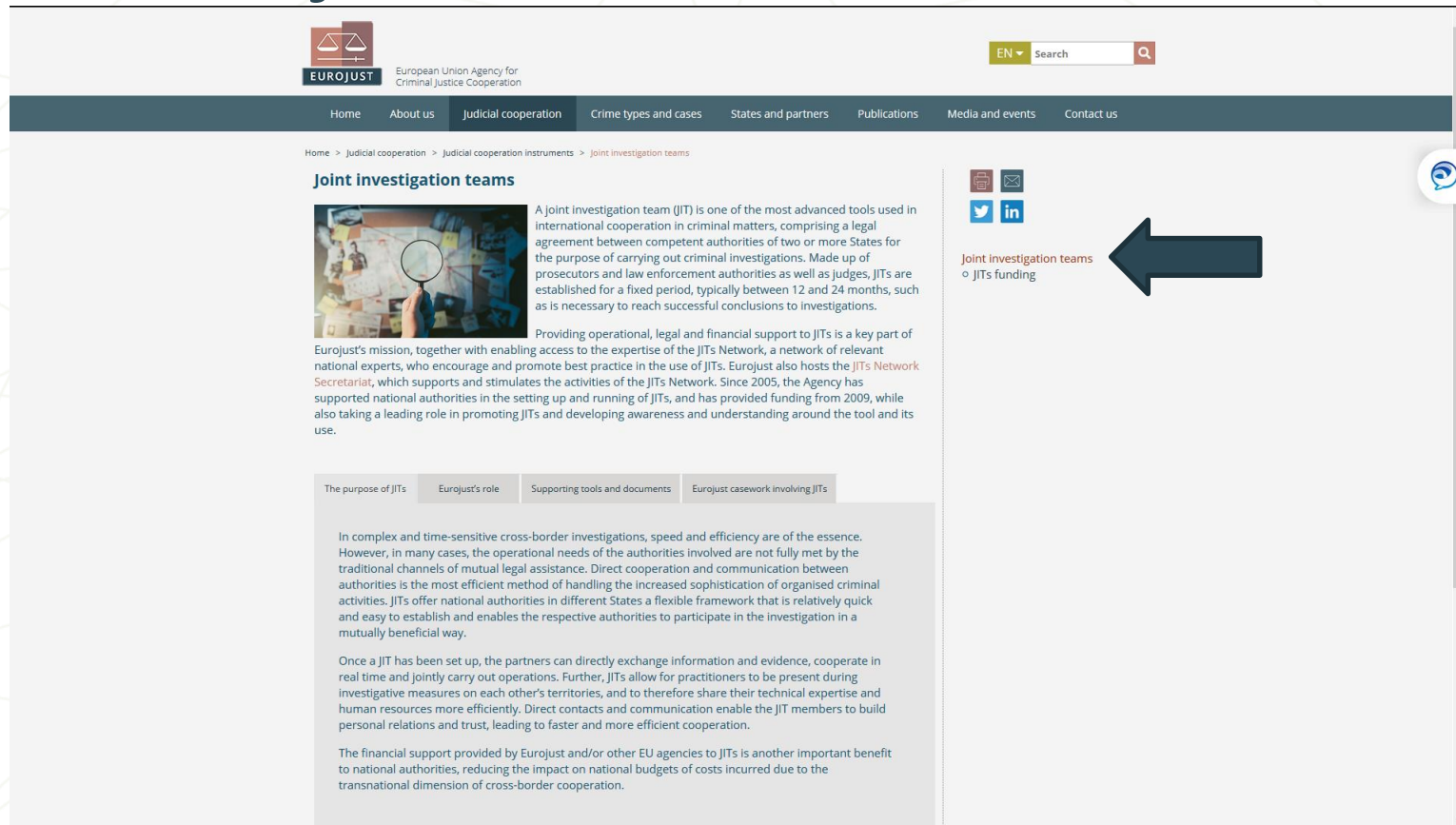
Eurojust support to JITs



Eurojust financial support (2014 – 2020)



Eurojust website – INFO HUB



The screenshot displays the Eurojust website's 'Joint investigation teams' page. The header includes the Eurojust logo and navigation links. The main content area features a title, a descriptive paragraph, an image of a hand holding a magnifying glass over a map, and a detailed paragraph about Eurojust's role. A sidebar on the right contains social media icons and a list of links, with a large blue arrow pointing to 'JITs funding'.

Joint investigation teams

A joint investigation team (JIT) is one of the most advanced tools used in international cooperation in criminal matters, comprising a legal agreement between competent authorities of two or more States for the purpose of carrying out criminal investigations. Made up of prosecutors and law enforcement authorities as well as judges, JITs are established for a fixed period, typically between 12 and 24 months, such as is necessary to reach successful conclusions to investigations.

Providing operational, legal and financial support to JITs is a key part of Eurojust's mission, together with enabling access to the expertise of the JITs Network, a network of relevant national experts, who encourage and promote best practice in the use of JITs. Eurojust also hosts the [JITs Network Secretariat](#), which supports and stimulates the activities of the JITs Network. Since 2005, the Agency has supported national authorities in the setting up and running of JITs, and has provided funding from 2009, while also taking a leading role in promoting JITs and developing awareness and understanding around the tool and its use.

The purpose of JITs **Eurojust's role** **Supporting tools and documents** **Eurojust casework involving JITs**

In complex and time-sensitive cross-border investigations, speed and efficiency are of the essence. However, in many cases, the operational needs of the authorities involved are not fully met by the traditional channels of mutual legal assistance. Direct cooperation and communication between authorities is the most efficient method of handling the increased sophistication of organised criminal activities. JITs offer national authorities in different States a flexible framework that is relatively quick and easy to establish and enables the respective authorities to participate in the investigation in a mutually beneficial way.

Once a JIT has been set up, the partners can directly exchange information and evidence, cooperate in real time and jointly carry out operations. Further, JITs allow for practitioners to be present during investigative measures on each other's territories, and to therefore share their technical expertise and human resources more efficiently. Direct contacts and communication enable the JIT members to build personal relations and trust, leading to faster and more efficient cooperation.

The financial support provided by Eurojust and/or other EU agencies to JITs is another important benefit to national authorities, reducing the impact on national budgets of costs incurred due to the transnational dimension of cross-border cooperation.

Joint investigation teams

- JITs funding



Tatiana Jancewicz
Head of the JITs Network Secretariat

JITsNetworkSecretariat@eurojust.europa.eu

www.eurojust.europa.eu