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Version 10.09.2023

PROGRAMME

EuroMed Justice Network of Contact Points (EMJNet) 2nd Meeting

21 September 2023

Larnaca, Cyprus

The second meeting of the EMJNet will follow the 18th CrimEx



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BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The EuroMed Justice Network of Contact Points (EMJNet) was established in November 2021, following the 14th CrimEx proposal endorsed by the 2nd EuroMed Forum of Prosecutors General.

The Organisational Rules and procedures for the functioning of the network are attached to this agenda.

1st EMJNet Meeting

The first meeting of EMJNet took place on 8 June 2023 in Rome with the following outcomes:

1. EMJ introduced the results of the survey regarding the functioning of EMJNet and received feedback from the participants.
Summary from the different interventions:
 - It is premature to amend the Organisational Rules in place; however some possible improvements can be discussed during the EMJNet meetings;
 - EMJNet Directory is used since November 2021 – several examples were provided – Egypt, Palestine, Israel, Lebanon; EMJ PMT should periodically update and circulate the Directory;
 - More awareness regarding the functioning of EMJNet at national level in SPCs and EUMS is needed, including in the trainings;
 - The role of EJM Secretariat and other practitioners network/secretariats to be clarified;
 - Clarify the roles of CrimEx and EMJNet;
 - The creation of specialised subgroups is considered premature – debates will continue.
2. Eurojust presentation on CP in third countries and possible role within EMJNet;
3. EMJNet agreed to welcome Eurojust as member when the internal processes are ready;
4. Eurojust had several bilateral meetings take place during three days to explain SPCs Eurojust tasks, tools and functions;
5. Consultations took place between Israel - Jordan (cases: THB and Cybercrime; possible agreement of coop) Belgium – Algeria – Palestine (personal data protection); Belgium – Israel (assets recovery workshop under TAIEX to take place in 2023); Israel – Romania; Jordan – Sweden (video hearing request sent to Jordan Courts).

2nd EMJNet Objectives (21 September 2023)

EMJNet members are invited to express their opinion and agree on the conclusions regarding the following key topics to be presented at the 5th PG Forum and to be further developed during the EMJ VI phase:

- a. How to use the Directory of Contact Points
- b. Clarify the roles of CrimEx and EMJNet - see the annexed table
- c. Raise awareness on the EMJNet at national level
- d. Next Phase 2024-2027 – The Strengthening of EMJNet
- e. Eurojust membership in the EMJNet



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LANGUAGE

- Simultaneous interpretation in English, French and Arabic

PARTICIPANTS

- EMJNet contact points, Eurojust (EJ), EJN

EuroMed Justice Programme Team

- Mr. Virgil IVAN-CUCU - Programme Coordinator (Team Leader)
- Mrs. Morgane THEBAULT – Communication Officer
- Mrs. Christina TSIKMAKI – Programme Officer



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Thursday 21 September 2023

08.30 - 09.00 REGISTRATION

Moderator EMJ Programme Coordinator

09.00 EMJ - Opening and presentation of the key topics

09.10 EMJ to present guidelines on how to use the Directory (Objective a)

09.30 EMJ to clarify the roles of CrimEx and EMJNet (Objective b, cf. annexed table)

09.50 EMJ – Raising awareness on EMJNet (Objective c)

10.10 *Tour de Table – SPCs and EUMSs opinions on objectives a, b and c. – 10 min per country*

10.30 – 10.45 Coffee Break

10.45 *Tour de Table – SPCs and EUMSs opinions on objectives a, b and c. – 10 min per country*

12.45– 13.45 Lunch Break

13.45 *Tour de table - EUMSs, Eurojust, EJM Secretariat opinions on objectives a, b and c. – 10 min per country*

14.05 EMJ will present the activities for the next phase for the EMJNet (Objective d)

14.20 Eurojust representative will present the practicalities aspects linked to Eurojust membership to the EMJNet (objective e)

14.30 SPCs, EUMSs, EJ and EJM invited to comment on objectives d and e.

15.00 Conclusions – EMJ Programme management team

15.15 **End of the meeting**



	CrimEx	EMJNet
Established	Madrid 2017 - EMJ IV	The Hague 2021 – EMJ V
Founding Documents	CrimEx Rules and Procedures CrimEx Regles et procedures	EMJNet Organisational Rules EMJNet Regles organisationnelles
Members	High to middle-ranking justice practitioners from Justice Ministries, the Judiciary, Public prosecution, Law enforcement and Police, with strong experience and sound knowledge in judicial cooperation in criminal matters, from both SPCs and EU MSs.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. SPCs and EU MSs will appoint EMJNet Contact Points (CP) on voluntary basis. EMJNet CPs can be the respective central authorities and/or criminal justices practitioners' (active in the field of judicial cooperation), CrimEx members, EMJ NFP, Eurojust contact points designated by the national judicial authorities. 2. With the prior agreement of the respective SPCs, EMJNet can affiliate already existing contact points at SPCs national level in the area of judicial or inter agencies cooperation in criminal matters, established through bilateral or multilateral agreements, programmes and projects, such as Eurojust, Cyber South, South Programme, UNODC Multiagency Task Force, UNODC Cyber. 3. European Judicial Network (EJN) Secretariat can be a member of the EMJNet and facilitate the contacts between EU MSs and EMJNet. EU MSs EMJNet members that are also EJN national correspondents can form a subgroup within EMJNet, connected with EJN Secretariat



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<p>Purpose</p>	<p>Strategy and policy platform at technical level</p> <p>Permanent experts working group, with regular meetings, a think-tank and a cross-regional forum building the trust and mutual confidence, exchanging good practices and lessons learned, conducting thorough analyses of the situation in each SPC and in the whole region, and setting up specific recommendations, guidelines, manuals, studies and researches.</p> <p>CrimEx exercises cross-regional ownership in the implementation of the Euro-Mediterranean judicial cooperation, in drafting and upgrading EuroMed tools for cooperation, interacting with other judicial networks, in training activities and in the monitoring of the Programme results.</p> <p>Within this new phase of the EMJ Programme, CrimEx will continue keeping its key role in directing the Programme and contributing to the achievements of the overall and specific objectives.</p>	<p>Operational network</p> <p>EMJNet is intended to be the operational interface for SPCs CrimEx members and the link with their national authorities. CrimEx remains strategic and policy oriented and the EMJNet becomes operational and supports CrimEx tasks at national level.</p> <p>EMJNet is instrumental to overcome or ease some of the current obstacles for cross Mediterranean cooperation</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Facilitate the first contact, speed up the process, monitor, ensure fluidity and expedite the judicial cooperation, in the case of the mandatory use of traditional MLA framework, official communication channels and central authorities. b. Provide initial advise on national legal framework, judicial system and the requirements for replying to a MLA request and the application of bilateral and multilateral agreements (e.g.: who to address; how to fill an MLA or rogatory letter; what channels to use) c. Facilitate the contacts - between CPs established at national level and CPs from other networks.² c. Build confidence between contact points; d. Establish a cross-Mediterranean culture of operational cooperation and collaboration
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