



Eurojust

The European Union's
Judicial Cooperation Unit



EUROJUST: AN ADDED VALUE IN THE FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM AT INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

Michèle Coninx
President of Eurojust

23 to 26 November 2014

International Association of Prosecutors
19th Annual Conference and General Meeting
Dubai, United Arab Emirates



EUROJUST



28 EU PROSECUTORS/JUDGES



23 to 26 November 2014

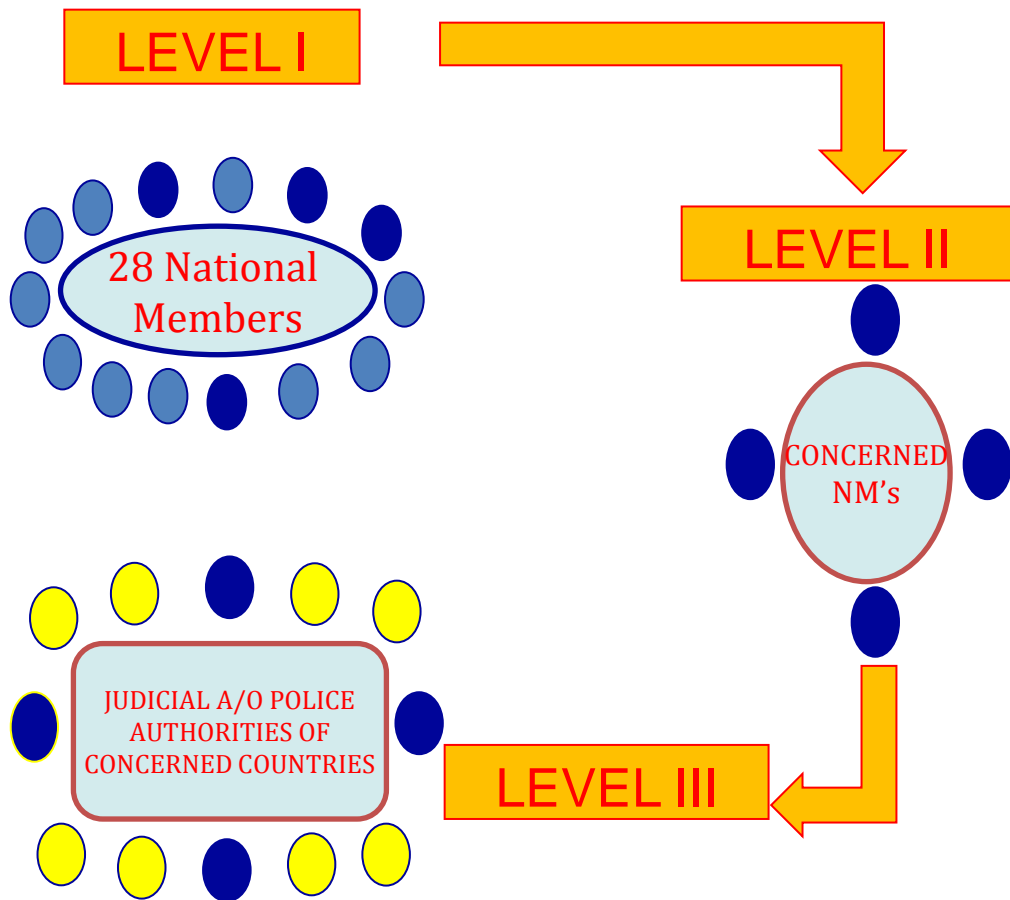
International Association of Prosecutors
19th Annual Conference and General Meeting
Dubai, United Arab Emirates



Objectives

1. To stimulate and improve **coordination**
2. To improve international judicial **cooperation** (e.g. MLA, EAW)
3. To **support**

Operational Coordination Meetings Operational Coordination Centre



Joint Investigation Teams (JITs)

A Joint Investigation Team (JIT) is:

- An investigation team
- Set up for a fixed period
- Based on an agreement between two or more EU Member States and/or competent authorities
- For a specific purpose

Non EU Member States may participate in a JIT with the agreement of all other parties

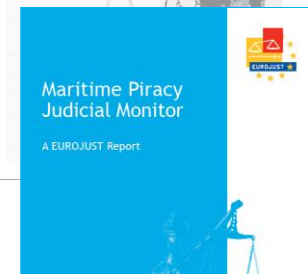
An instrument of judicial cooperation most successful in the fight against cross-border crime

Counter-Terrorism Team

- Organisation of Operational, Tactical and Strategic meetings
- **Networking with Key Players Terrorism**
- Legal Database
- Judicial Database
- **Contact with Third States**
- Financing of Terrorism
- Cyber Terrorism
- CBRN-E Terrorism

CENTRE OF EXPERTISE

Eurojust Products



- Terrorism Convictions Monitor
EUROJUST LIMITED
- Maritime Piracy Judicial Monitor
EUROJUST LIMITED
- Contributions to Europol TE-SAT Report
- External Newsletters: Counter-Terrorism, THB, Cybercrime, JIT, EPPPO, Environmental crime, MTIC
All newsletters are available on Eurojust's website
- Report on Foreign Fighters
RESTRICTED

Cooperation with third countries is vital

- **Formal agreements on cooperation with third countries:** framework for further counter-terrorism investigations and prosecutions, facilitated exchange of information
Norway, Iceland, USA, Switzerland, fYROM, Lichtenstein
- **Secondment of liaison magistrates at Eurojust:** increased awareness among all the states on terrorism matters, better support to prosecutions and investigations
Norway, United States, Switzerland (per 2015)
- **Eurojust network of third states contact points:** 30 countries from all the continents
- **Posting of Eurojust Liaison Magistrates to third States:** article 27b of the 2009 Eurojust Decision
- **MoUs signed with international organisations** to improve judicial cooperation and intensify the fight against serious forms of transnational crime
UNODC, INTERPOL, Iber-RED

Example of the Eurojust counter-terrorism regional initiatives: cooperation with the Western Balkan countries

Eurojust Strategic Meeting – 4 and 5 May 2009

European Union – Western Balkans exchange on counter-terrorism matters (Prague, Czech Republic)

- Albania, Bosnia Herzegovina, Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia
- Assessment of the terrorist threat in the WB area, legal and institutional framework, police and judicial cooperation in the WB countries, difficulties encountered, role of Eurojust and Europol
- Goals: to adopt concrete actions that would help the WB countries to improve their capabilities in the fight against terrorism, to reinforce judicial cooperation and to encourage the establishment of a network of specialized contact points

Example of the Eurojust counter-terrorism regional initiatives: cooperation with the Western Balkan countries

Three Eurojust Counter-Terrorism meetings took place in 2014 with the Contact Points for Eurojust in the Western Balkan region at Eurojust's premises in The Hague

- **3 April 2014:** A training on the role and added-value of Eurojust in countering terrorism and the potential ways to enhance cooperation was given to the newly appointed Eurojust contact points in Albania, Bosnia Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia
- **5 June 2014:** Participation of counter-terrorism experts from Bosnia Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia in the Eurojust's Tactical Meeting on Terrorism "Current trends in the EU counter-terrorism framework: foreign fighters in Syria – Judicial cooperation with third States in this field"
- **17 October 2014:** Meeting with the Eurojust contact points in Albania, Bosnia Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia on concrete tools and measures to fight against terrorism, reinforce judicial cooperation and pave the way for the establishment of a network of specialized contact points

Enhancement of targeted cooperation with third countries

Eurojust will continue to:

- Encourage and support the establishment of a worldwide network of national contact points on counter-terrorism
- Call for its systematic involvement in ongoing terrorism investigations and prosecutions with a cross border dimension
- Promote the exchange of views on legislative initiatives to strengthen the fight against terrorism at international level
- Encourage the debate on ways to promote the international judicial cooperation in terrorism matters

Anders Breivik Case

- Background
 - Sequential bombing (in the Government District, Oslo) and mass shooting (on Utøya Island, Hole Municipality) on 22 July 2011
 - Inspired by a far-right ideology
 - Extensive trial from 16 April until 22 June 2012
 - 24 August 2012: Anders Breivik was found guilty for the murder on 77 people, sentenced to preventive detention with a term of 21 years and a minimum of 10 years



Pictures AFP/Reuters

Eurojust's involvement

- Liaison Prosecutor of Norway present at Eurojust
- Able to facilitate the execution of requests from Norway to other States to assist in the investigations

Investigation of Foreign Bank Accounts

- Norwegian Liaison Prosecutor was able to facilitate the investigation of foreign bank accounts via different National Members at Eurojust.
 - Bank accounts in Antigua and Barbuda. The UK National Member and Norwegian Liaison Prosecutor facilitated the request, which was executed in a swift and excellent way by the competent authorities.
 - Information of a bank account in Latvia. The Latvian National Member was able to facilitate the request and provided information on the bank account without waiting for the total execution of the request.

Countering Practical Issues

- The Polish National Member provided information on the state of play of the execution of the Norwegian LoR.
- Spanish and UK National Members were very willing to share their experiences with Norway on how to handle such a huge trial case (amount of victims/witnesses/press attention/...).

Quick response: The French connection

- French authorities identified and located, at request of Norway, a witness. An official request from Norway to interview the witness was needed on a very short notice.
- Via the French National Member and the Norwegian Liaison Prosecutor at Eurojust, a letter of request was provided by Norway in order to carry out the interview swiftly.

Quick response: US witness

- During Anders Breivik's trial, the prosecutors decided to hear a witness, residing in the USA.
- The Norwegian Liaison Prosecutor at Eurojust was contacted to assist the Prosecutors (5 June 2012) on this urgent matter (evidence could only be presented until 22 June 2012).
- The same evening, the Norwegian and USA Liaison Prosecutors came in contact with each other. Less than 12 hours later confirmation was received that the FBI was locating, and trying to make contact with, the witness.
- Result: successful interview of the witness on 12 June 2012 during the trial via video link!

Contact Information

Michèle Coninx

President of Eurojust

Chair of the Counter-Terrorism team

National Member for Belgium

mconinx@eurojust.europa.eu

Tel 00 31 70 412 51 00



www.eurojust.europa.eu

Annual report available at <http://www.eurojust.europa.eu/doclibrary/corporate/Pages/annual-reports.aspx>