



EUROMED JUSTICE

A programme funded by
the European Union



Lead Firm / Chef de file





2nd MEETING OF THE EUROMED FORUM OF PROSECUTORS GENERAL

GENERAL PRESENTATION

The 1st Meeting of the EuroMed Forum of Prosecutors General, held in Madrid on 23 January 2018, under the auspices of the Spanish Prosecutor General, represents a key phase for the improvement of judicial cooperation between the EU Member States and the South Partner Countries (SPCs). The Madrid 1st Meeting established the foundations of the much-needed high-level prosecutorial mechanism of cross-regional consultations and dialogue.

The Madrid Declaration and Road Map (annexed) express the determination of the Prosecutors General from South Partner Countries (SPCs)¹ and of the Prosecutors General from European Union (EU) Member States² to strengthen at the highest prosecutorial level, cross-regional judicial cooperation in fighting terrorism and serious forms of cross-border organised crime, benefiting from the support of Eurojust, the European Judicial Network in criminal matters (EJN), together with the main European and international stakeholders³.

Entrusted by the Madrid Declaration and Road Map, the participants in the 8th EuroMed Justice Group of Experts in criminal matters (CrimEx) (hosted from 12 to 15 November 2018 by the Spanish Judicial School in Barcelona) discussed and summarised the opinions regarding the modalities to establish an effective EuroMed Forum of Prosecutors General. Based on the 8th CrimEx debates, opinions and written proposals received from SPCs and EU Member States, the EuroMed Justice Key Experts prepared the Draft of the Guiding Principles of the EuroMed Forum of Prosecutors General (annexed). Therefore, the 8th CrimEx paved the way for the 2nd Meeting of the EuroMed Forum of Prosecutors General to take place in The Hague, at Eurojust premises, from 30 to 31 January 2019.

Furthermore, the Special CrimEx Session of 29 January 2019 will discuss and work out the final draft of the proposal for the Guiding Principles of the EuroMed Forum for the 30th-31st of January 2019 Forum debates. Moreover, the Special Session will discuss the relevant cross-regional issues affecting the work of the prosecutorial authorities, regarding the thematic priorities identified in the EuroMed Justice Areas as well as the experiences and good practices and propose common observations or opinions for submission to the Forum debates.

Therefore, the purpose of the 2nd meeting of the Forum is to discuss and agree upon the proposal for the Guiding Principles of the EuroMed Forum and to debate the relevant cross-regional issues affecting

¹ Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Morocco, Lebanon, Palestine and Tunisia.

² Belgium, Cyprus, France, Malta, Portugal Spain, Greece and Italy. Italy and Greece expressed their support to the Madrid declaration and the Forum through letters dated on 13 February 2018 and 4 May 2018, respectively.

³ Eurojust, EJN in criminal matters, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, the Consultative Council of European Prosecutors and the International Association of Prosecutors.

the work of the prosecutorial authorities, regarding the thematic priorities identified in the EuroMed Justice Areas, as well as to share experiences and good practices and to formulate proposals for common observations or opinions.

OBJECTIVES

OBJECTIVE 1:

TO DISCUSS THE RELEVANT CROSS-REGIONAL ISSUES AFFECTING THE WORK OF THE PROSECUTORIAL AUTHORITIES, REGARDING THE FOLLOWING THEMATIC PRIORITIES IDENTIFIED IN THE EUROMED JUSTICE AREAS, AS WELL AS TO SHARE EXPERIENCES AND GOOD PRACTICES AND TO FORMULATE PROPOSALS FOR COMMON OBSERVATIONS OR OPINIONS

During the 2nd Meeting, the Forum will address, discuss, exchange good practices and draft opinions on the appropriate investigative and prosecutorial measures, and the relevant legal issues affecting the work of the prosecutorial authorities, regarding the following *thematic priorities* identified in the EuroMed Justice Areas:

- a) Cyberspace and judicial cooperation in criminal matters. Main challenges posed by the use of the cyberspace by terrorists and organised crime, in particular:
 - Collection of electronic evidence - utilising the EuroMed Justice and Police Manual on Digital Evidence;
 - Personal data protection and cooperation with 3rd countries.
- b) Experiences in Joint Investigations Teams, countering terrorism and organised crime, in particular human trafficking, smuggling of migrants, and drug trafficking in the Euro-Mediterranean region.

OBJECTIVE 2:

TO AGREE ON THE PROPOSALS FOR THE GUIDING PRINCIPLES OF THE EUROMED FORUM OF PROSECUTORS GENERAL

The 2nd Meeting of the Forum will consider, reflect and agree upon the Guiding Principles of the EuroMed Forum of Prosecutors General. The initial draft of Guiding Principles were prepared by the EuroMed Justice Key Experts based on the opinions formulated during the 8th CrimEx in Barcelona and the written proposals received from SPCs and EU Member States. The proposed Draft of the Guiding Principles of the Forum of the Prosecutors General should be finalised during the Special CrimEx Session of 29 January 2019, held in The Hague. Subsequently the Forum will discuss and agree on the draft.

OBJECTIVE 3:

TO DISCUSS AND AGREE UPON THE POSSIBLE WAYS OF COORDINATION AND CREATING SYNERGIES WITH OTHER PLATFORMS OF JUDICIAL COOPERATION, as mentioned in article 5 of the Draft Guiding Principles. This objective will be addressed along with the debates on the draft Guiding Principles, article *5. Forum cooperation with other platform and international organisations*. It is in the benefit of the cross-regional cooperation that the EuroMed Forum of Prosecutors General foster the synergies and coordinate with other platforms of judicial cooperation such as the annual TAIEX International Forum for Prosecutors on Fighting Cross-Border Organised Crime and the recent Aix en Provence initiative of December 2018 on the “Union des Procureurs généraux de la Méditerranée”, as well as the Network of

West African Central Authorities and Prosecutors Against Organized Crime – WACAP, together with the Regional Judicial Platform of the Sahel Countries.

METHODOLOGY

The participants will present the position of their respective national prosecution authorities, discuss and reach an agreement regarding the content of the Draft *Guiding Principles* and the *coordination with other platforms*.

The *interventions on the two thematic priorities* a) cyberspace and judicial cooperation in criminal matters and b) experiences in Joint Investigations Teams, countering terrorism and organised crime, should cover in a **concise manner** the **relevant challenges faced in the prosecution** of terrorism and organised crime. The participants should **share their strategic approach, positive experience and good practices** in finding solutions to cooperate effectively in countering terrorism and organised crime in cyberspace and in using the JITs.

The representatives from Eurojust, EJM, the Consultative Forum of Prosecutors General, the NADAL Network and the other international organisations are invited to present their comments regarding the objectives 1 to 3.

Upon request, EuroMed Justice will facilitate bilateral meetings and consultations to take place during the breaks and at the end of each day.

The 2nd Meeting of the Forum will take place in English and French, with simultaneous interpretation in Arabic, English and French.

PARTICIPANTS

- Prosecutors General, Attorneys General and Directors of Public Prosecutions from the South Partner Countries (SPCs) and from the European Union Member States (EU MS).
- Representatives of the Consultative Forum of Prosecutors General and Directors of Public Prosecutions of the Member States of the European Union and of the NADAL Network.
- European Commission, Eurojust and the European Judicial Network in criminal matters (EJM).
- Representatives of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), United Nations Counter Terrorism Executive Directorate (UN CTED) and the International Association of Prosecutors (IAP).
- CrimEx Members.
- EuroMed Police.
- Observers.

Wednesday 30th January 2019

08.20 Departure by bus from the Hotel to Eurojust

09.00 Opening and Welcome

- *President of Eurojust – Mr. Ladislav Hamran*
- *European Judicial Network – Secretary, Mr. Ola Löfgren*
- *Director of FIIAPP – Ms. Anna Terrón*
- *European Commission - Deputy Director General of DG European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations, Mr Maciej Popowski*

09.30 Introduction of the 2nd Meeting of the EuroMed Forum of the Prosecutors General. Update on the workings of the 8th CrimEx and Special CrimEx

- Presentation of the EuroMed Tools for judicial cooperation: the CrimEx Docs and Digital Evidence Manual
- Thematic Priorities

EuroMed Justice Key Experts

- *European Commission - DG for Justice and Consumers- Mr. Martijn Quinn*

10.00 (I) EuroMed Forum of Prosecutors General

- Interventions of the Prosecutors General, Attorneys General and Directors of Public Prosecutions from the South Partner Countries regarding Objective 1 - thematic priorities **Algeria, Egypt, Israel, and Jordan** (≈10 min each)

10.40 *Coffee Break*

11.10 (II) EuroMed Forum of Prosecutors General

- Interventions of the Prosecutors General, Attorneys General and Directors of Public Prosecutions from the South Partner Countries regarding Objective 1 - thematic priorities: **Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia** (≈10 min each)

11.40 (III) EuroMed Forum of Prosecutors General

- Interventions of the Prosecutors General, Attorneys General and Directors of Public Prosecutions from the European Union Member States regarding Objective 1 - thematic priorities: **Belgium, Cyprus, France, Greece** (≈10 min each)

12.20 *Family Photo and Lunch Break*

13.50 (IV) EuroMed Forum of Prosecutors General

- Interventions of the Prosecutors General, Attorneys General and Directors of Public Prosecutions from the European Union Member States regarding Objective 1 - thematic priorities: **Italy, Malta, Portugal, Spain** (≈10 min each)

14.30 (IV) EuroMed Forum of the Prosecutors General

- Interventions of the Representatives of the Consultative Forum of EU Prosecutors General (**Finland and Romania**) and **Estonia** for the **NADAL Network (Estonia)** regarding Objective 1 - thematic priorities (≈10 min each)

15.00 Coffee Break

15.30 (V) EuroMed Forum of Prosecutors General

- Interventions of the representatives of **Eurojust and EJP** regarding Objective 1 - thematic priorities (≈15 min each)

16.00 (VI) EuroMed Forum of Prosecutors General

- Interventions of the representatives of **UNODC** (Mr. Masood Karimipour, Director Terrorism Prevention Branch) **UN-CTED and IAP** regarding Objective 1 - thematic priorities (≈10 min each)

16.30 Summary of the discussions and possible Forum Opinions on the thematic priorities
EuroMed Justice Key Experts

Upon request, EuroMed Justice will facilitate bilateral meetings and consultations to take place during the breaks and at the end of each day.

***** End of the first day of the EuroMed Forum of Prosecutors General *****

Thursday 31th January 2019

08.20 Departure by bus from the Hotel to the Eurojust

09.00 Introduction of the Draft Guiding Principles, including article 5 on coordination of the EuroMed Forum with platforms such as the TAIEX International Forum for Prosecutors on Fighting Cross-Border Organised Crime

EuroMed Justice Key Experts

- Presentation of the recent Aix en Provence initiative of December 2018 on the “Union des Procureurs généraux de la Méditerranée” (≈5 min)
- Presentation of UNODC coordinated networks: the Network of West African Central Authorities and Prosecutors Against Organized Crime – WACAP and the Regional Judicial Platform of the Sahel Countries. (≈5 min)

09.40 (VII) EuroMed Forum of Prosecutors General

- Interventions of the Prosecutors General, Attorneys General and Directors of Public Prosecutions from the South Partner Countries regarding the Draft Guiding Principles and coordination with other platforms: Algeria, Egypt, Israel, and Jordan (≈10 min each)

10.20 (VIII) EuroMed Forum of Prosecutors General

- Interventions of the Prosecutors General, Attorneys General and Directors of Public Prosecutions from the South Partner Countries regarding the Draft Guiding Principles and coordination with other platforms: Morocco, Palestine, and Tunisia (≈10 min each)

10.50 *Coffee Break*

11.10 (IX) EuroMed Forum of Prosecutors General

- Interventions of the Prosecutors General, Attorneys General and Directors of Public Prosecutions from the European Union Member States regarding the Draft Guiding Principles and coordination with other platforms: Belgium, Cyprus, France, Greece (≈10 min each)

11.50 (X) EuroMed Forum of Prosecutors General

- Interventions of the Prosecutors General, Attorneys General and Directors of Public Prosecutions from the European Union Member States regarding the Draft Guiding Principles and coordination with other platforms: Italy, Malta, Portugal, and Spain (≈10 min each)

12.30 (XI) EuroMed Forum of Prosecutors General

- Interventions of the representatives of the Consultative Forum of Prosecutors General of the European Union (**Finland and Romania**) and the **NADAL Network (Estonia)** regarding the Draft Guiding Principles and coordination with other platforms (≈10 min each)

13.00 Informal Lunch Break

13.50 (XII) EuroMed Forum of Prosecutors General

- Interventions of the representatives of **Eurojust and EJN** regarding the Draft Guiding Principle and coordination with other platforms (≈10 min each)

14.10 (XIII) EuroMed Forum of Prosecutors General

- Interventions of the representatives of: **UNODC , UN-CTED and IAP** regarding the Draft Guiding Principles and coordination with other platforms (≈10 min each)

14.40 Coffee Break

15.10

- **The Guiding Principles** of the EuroMed Forum of Prosecutors General including the coordination with other platforms and
- **The Opinions on the thematic priorities** are approved by the Forum

15.30 Closure of the 2nd Meeting of the EuroMed Forum of Prosecutors General

30 minutes visit to the Eurojust premises

Upon request, EuroMed Justice will facilitate bilateral meetings and consultations to take place during the breaks and at the end of each day.