

## CALL FOR EVIDENCE FOR AN IMPACT ASSESSMENT

This document aims to inform the public and stakeholders on the Commission's future legislative work so they can provide feedback on the Commission's understanding of the problem and possible solutions, and give us any relevant information that they may have, including on possible impacts of the different options.

**⚠ You should finalise this document at the earliest stages of the impact assessment process, so that best use can be made of feedback from stakeholders.**

|                                   |                                                                                   |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>TITLE OF THE INITIATIVE</b>    | Eurojust Regulation - revision                                                    |
| <b>LEAD DG (RESPONSIBLE UNIT)</b> | Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers (DG JUST), Unit A4 Criminal Justice |
| <b>LIKELY TYPE OF INITIATIVE</b>  | Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council           |
| <b>INDICATIVE TIMETABLE</b>       | Planned adoption date: Q2-2026                                                    |
| <b>ADDITIONAL INFORMATION</b>     | <a href="#">Eurojust - European Commission</a>                                    |

*This document is for information purposes only. It does not prejudice the final decision of the Commission on whether this initiative will be pursued or on its final content. All elements of the initiative described, including its timing, are subject to change.*

### A. Political context, problem definition and subsidiarity check

#### Political context

'ProtectEU' - a [European internal security strategy](#) sets out a coherent approach to internal security. The strategy includes an ambitious overhaul of the mandates of key actors in the field of security, such as the European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation (Eurojust) and the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Europol). The strategy's objectives have been endorsed in the High-Level Forum on the future of European Criminal Justice.

Revising the Eurojust Regulation will boost Eurojust's ability to support national and EU judicial authorities in fighting serious and organised cross-border crime. It will help strengthen EU security and EU security capabilities, complementing related initiatives such as the modernisation of the rules on organised crime. It will enhance Eurojust's cooperation at EU and international level and ensure that Eurojust and other EU agencies and bodies - most importantly Europol and the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO) – cooperate more effectively and complement one another's work. It will thereby also contribute to strengthening the EU's anti-fraud architecture.

#### Problem the initiative aims to tackle

According to a recent evaluation<sup>1</sup>, Eurojust's main problem is that it does not fully exploit its potential to support the investigation and prosecution of serious and organised cross-border crime. The main reasons for the deficit (drivers of the problem) are that:

- Eurojust mainly reacts to requests for support from EU countries, rather than being proactive. It does not initiate actions, for example by identifying links based on data received from national authorities or other EU Justice and Home Affairs (JHA) actors. Nor does it initiate investigations or establish joint investigation teams. Furthermore, Eurojust does not use the tools at hand as efficiently as it could, which limits its ability to contribute to the fight against serious and organised crime.
- Eurojust's cooperation with other EU JHA agencies, bodies and networks is not as efficient as it could be, due to insufficient and inconsistent rules on cooperation and data exchange in the respective legal bases. This fragmentation undermines Eurojust's ability to step up its fight against serious and organised cross-border crime based on information from other JHA actors or to cooperate more closely with them. Resolving this issue would also improve the working practices of the other JHA agencies.

<sup>1</sup> Evaluation of the European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation (Eurojust) (SWD(2025) 182 final) ([Eurojust - European Commission](#)).

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eurojust is not sufficiently equipped to respond to the increasingly international dimension of organised crime. Despite having good technical cooperation with several non-EU countries, Eurojust struggles to address the international aspects of its responsibilities effectively.</li> <li>• Eurojust's complex governance and decision-making processes, as well as some lack of clarity on competences, undermine the efficiency of its working practices and its ability to respond quickly to the agile nature of organised crime and geopolitical shifts. This has a negative impact on the operational support it provides to EU countries in tackling serious cross-border and organised crime. Addressing governance issues, clarifying competences and simplifying procedures will be essential if the agency is to improve its responsiveness and operational capacity, and achieve more with the same resources.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Basis for EU action (legal basis and subsidiarity check)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Legal basis</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| The legal basis for the revision is Article 85 TFEU, under which the EU can regulate Eurojust's structure, operations, field of action and tasks to enhance judicial coordination among Member States.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Practical need for EU action</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| To enable the EU to step up its fight against serious and organised crime, there is a practical need to boost Eurojust's ability to support judicial authorities at national and EU level, and to strengthen the agency's capacity to coordinate with EU countries and international partners. This coordinated approach at EU level cannot be achieved by EU countries acting alone. The EU should therefore update the current legal framework to strengthen Eurojust's capabilities, ensuring that measures are proportionate to the challenges faced, in alignment with the subsidiarity principle.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>B. Objectives and policy options</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <p><b>General objective:</b> to ensure that Eurojust reaches its full potential in supporting the fight against serious and organised cross-border crime in a rapidly evolving security landscape.</p> <p><b>Specific objectives:</b> to enhance Eurojust's ability to support national authorities and the EPPO; to improve data exchange and cooperation with other JHA agencies, bodies and networks to ensure coherence; to facilitate cooperation with international partners; to make decision-making quicker and more efficient.</p> <p><b>Legislative and non-legislative options</b> to be explored include:</p> <p><b>Baseline scenario ('status quo')</b> – maintaining the current situation despite a rapidly evolving landscape in terms of serious and organised crime and associated threats.</p> <p><b>Non-legislative measures to improve the implementation of the Eurojust Regulation</b> – such as revising the working arrangements with other EU agencies, putting in place further working arrangements and international agreements with non-EU countries, and reviewing internal procedures to simplify/reduce administrative burden.</p> <p><b>Targeted technical amendments to the Eurojust Regulation</b> – such as adding and clarifying definitions, competences and procedure; introducing targeted legal provisions to overcome the most serious technical and legal obstacles to information exchange with other JHA agencies/bodies/networks; and simplifying administrative procedures and human resources tasks.</p> <p><b>A more in-depth revision of Eurojust's mandate</b> – such as redefining and extending its tasks to enhance the support it can provide to EU countries, as well as its cooperation with JHA bodies and international partners; simplifying its governance and procedures; and optimising its resources. Short- and longer-term key measures referred to under these options may be complementary and could be combined.</p> |
| <b>C. Likely impacts</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The initiative is expected to <b>increase security</b>. Eurojust's increased support to national authorities should <b>contribute significantly</b> to the fight against serious and organised crime, <b>reduce the significant economic harm</b> stemming from organised crime (including financial crime) <b>and promote economic stability and growth in the EU</b>.</li> <li>• By strengthening support to EU countries in the fight against organised crime and crimes such as drug trafficking, human trafficking and cybercrime, the initiative is expected to yield <b>significant social benefits</b>, improving public safety and security, public health and online security across the EU. The initiative is expected to <b>boost fundamental rights</b> by ensuring the security of citizens, improving victims' access to justice, and</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |

safeguarding the rights of suspects. Improving information exchange could have implications for the protection of personal data, but adequate safeguards will be put in place.

- The initiative will include measures to **improve Eurojust's working methods and its cooperation** with other actors. This will also lead to **simplification, reduced administrative burden and an optimal use of resources**.

## D. Better regulation instruments

### Impact assessment

An impact assessment will be carried out in line with the European Commission's better regulation guidelines to ensure that the decision on a revision of the Eurojust Regulation<sup>2</sup> is based on factual evidence. Following the publication of the evaluation report, the preparatory work for the impact assessment is currently under way. This process will be supported by an external study to ensure a thorough analysis of the impacts of the different options and to provide the insights necessary to support the work of the relevant Commission departments.

### Consultation strategy

A public consultation will be held to gather diverse viewpoints from the general public. This will be complemented by targeted consultations with relevant stakeholders (e.g. national authorities, representatives of EU institutions, bodies, offices and agencies as well as networks, including the centralised and decentralised levels of Eurojust, bars and law societies, lawyers, judges, prosecutors and law enforcement associations).

A survey will be conducted with authorities in EU countries involved in investigating and prosecuting serious cross-border crime. Scientific researchers and academics will also be invited to contribute their knowledge and analyses to further inform the initiative.

### Why we are consulting?

The aim of the consultation is to gather input to guide a possible revision of the Eurojust Regulation in order to boost Eurojust's effectiveness in combating serious cross-border crime, and to provide it with a framework to react faster and more effectively when addressing organised crime.

### Target audience

National authorities, representatives of EU institutions, bodies, offices and agencies as well as networks, including the centralised and decentralised levels of Eurojust, bars and law societies, lawyers, judges, prosecutors, law enforcement associations as well as private stakeholders, such as citizens, academia and civil society organisations, both in the EU and beyond.

---

<sup>2</sup> Regulation (EU) 2018/1727 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 November 2018 on the European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation (Eurojust) ([Regulation - 2018/1727 - EN - EUR-Lex](#)).