

## THE EPPO AND EU LAW: A STEP FORWARD IN INTEGRATION

### Topic 1 - THE ROAD TO EPPO

**26<sup>th</sup> February 2024** | 16:30-18:30 | **building U6 – room 05**

#### **OPENING CONFERENCE: THE EPPO AS A STEP FORWARD IN INTEGRATION**

Launch of the activities of the EPPO, and the contribution of the Italian Financial Police (Guardia di Finanza)

Participants: Costanza Honorati; Benedetta Ubertazzi; Andrea Venegoni; Oliviero Mazza; Lorenzo Salazar; Roberto Sciarretta.

**27<sup>th</sup> February 2024** | 16:30-18:30 | **building U6 – room 26**

#### Why we did (do) need an EU prosecutor

The presentation will focus on the notion of fraud to the Union's financial interests: analysis of the content of this notion and of its practical consequences, before and after the PIF Directive, in the European Court of Justice case law. From a judicial point of view: why did we need EPPO?

Participants: Benedetta Ubertazzi; Alessandro Marciano.

**28<sup>th</sup> February 2024** | 16:30-18:30 | **building U7 – room 04**

#### How enhanced cooperation on the EPPO began, and paid off.

EPPO regulation: rules applicable to the European Delegated Prosecutors

Participants: Benedetta Ubertazzi; Serena Cacciatore; Stefano Castellani; Ludovica Tavassi.

### Topic 2 - THE EPPO

**4<sup>th</sup> March 2024** | 16:30-18:30 | **building U6 – room 05**

#### EPPO: structure and in-depth analysis of the problems related to applicable law

Participants: Benedetta Ubertazzi; Alejandro Hernández López; Ilaria Sticchi (online).

**5<sup>th</sup> March 2024** | 16:30-18:30 | **building U6 – room 26**

#### The EPPO's role and mandate

The presentation will be devoted to the differences and similarities between EPPO and the Court of Justice: "neighbours" and yet so different? Also, the cooperation between the EPPO and the Court of Justice will be highlighted.

Participants: Benedetta Ubertazzi; Alessandro Marciano.

**6<sup>th</sup> March 2024** | 16:30-18:30 | **building U7 – room 04**

#### The EPPO functioning: a practical overview of the judicial cooperation and of the role of the

European Prosecutor. The presentation will focus on the practical function of EPPO, with reference to the issue of the judicial cooperation and to Eurojust (EU's judicial cooperation unit) and EJN (European Judicial Network), which are the networks and bodies supporting judicial cooperation. This issue will be faced with a focus on the role of the role the European Prosecutors.

Participants: Benedetta Ubertazzi; Oliviero Mazza.

### **Topic 3 - THE EPPO AND NATIONAL AUTHORITIES: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES**

**11<sup>th</sup> March 2024** | 16:30-18:30 | **building U6 – room 05**

The interplay between the EPPO and authorities of participating Member States. EPPO regulation: rules on judicial remedies and on conflicts of jurisdictions between EPPO and Member States public prosecutors  
Challenges for the EPPO's mandate stem from the relationship between the Office and national prosecutors and enforcement forces in participating Member States.  
Participants: Benedetta Ubertazzi; Enrico Traversa.

**12<sup>th</sup> March 2024** | 16:30-18:30 | **building U6 – room 26**

The EPPO working arrangements with authorities of participating Member States: notably, the Exercise, Customs and Monopolies Agency (ADM)  
Participants: Benedetta Ubertazzi; Michele Petito.

**13<sup>th</sup> March 2024** | 16:30-18:30 | **building U7 – room 04**

The EPPO and the authorities of non-participating Member States and third states  
Additional challenges for the EPPO's mandate stem from the relationship between the Office and non-participating Member States, on the one hand, and justice institutions in third countries, on the other. This fragmentation will tend to make the EPPO's tasks more complex and more difficult to fulfil for cross-border cases that involve suspects from these countries.  
Participants: Benedetta Ubertazzi; Florin Razvan Radu (online).

### **Topic 4 - THE EPPO PROGRAMMING 2021–24: HIGHLIGHTS**

**18<sup>th</sup> March 2024** | 16:30-18:30 | **building U6 – room 05**

The infiltration of organised crime into the legal economy and the law enforcement role of the European Public Prosecutor's Office  
Danilo Ceccarelli will be interviewed by the journalist Roberto Saviano about the role of the European Public Prosecutor's Office and the infiltration of organised crime into the legal economy.  
Participants: Benedetta Ubertazzi; Danilo Ceccarelli, Roberto Saviano.

**19<sup>th</sup> March 2024** | 16:30-18:30 | **building U6 – room 26**

The EPPO and the Digitalization of criminal justice  
The operationalization of the EPPO will equally build on broader EU-level efforts towards the digitalization of justice, and criminal justice in particular. In December 2020, the European Commission adopted a package of initiatives to modernize the EU justice systems, including the Communication on the Digitalization of Justice in the EU. The COVID-19 pandemic has given an extra impetus to digitalization efforts.  
Participants: Benedetta Ubertazzi; Fabrizio De Sanna; Federico Mamoli.

**20<sup>th</sup> March 2024** | 16:30-18:30 | **building U7 – room 04**

EPPO-OLAF relations and interactions  
The nature of investigations, their compatibility and scope. Admissibility of evidence gathered by OLAF in EPPO proceedings; exchange of information between OLAF, EPPO, national authorities and other bodies; views of the future topography of protection of financial interests of the EU. The EU's judicial cooperation unit (Eurojust) supports combating serious organised crime affecting more than one EU country. The European Judicial Network (EJN) promotes judicial cooperation in criminal matters between EU countries. Together with the EPPO, Eurojust and the EJN are the networks and bodies supporting judicial cooperation.  
Participants: Benedetta Ubertazzi, Petr Klement

## **Topic 5 - THE EPPO, JUDICIAL COOPERATION, AND INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL SECURITY**

**25<sup>th</sup> March 2024** | 16:30-18:30 | **building U6 – room 05**

### The EPPO and the European Commission's Anti-Fraud Strategy 2019

The start of the operations of the EPPO should be an important step forward in bringing new impetus to the overall anti-fraud architecture of the Union. The EPPO will endeavour to be actively involved in the main strategic EU initiatives in this area, notably the revised 2019 Commission's Anti-Fraud Strategy (CAFS).

Participants: Benedetta Ubertazzi, Fabrizia Bemer.

**26<sup>th</sup> March 2024** | 16:30-18:30 | **building U6 – room 26**

### The EPPO cooperation with Europol, OLAF and Eurojust

To achieve its objectives, the EPPO establishes effective cooperation with its key partners. At the EU level, close cooperation with Europol, OLAF and Eurojust in particular remains essential for ensuring that the scope of investigations into offences affecting the Union's budget is comprehensive, and that the new institutional design for the fight against fraud is fully effective.

Participants: Benedetta Ubertazzi; Pietro Suchan.

**27<sup>th</sup> March 2024** | 16:30-18:30 | **building U7 – room 04**

### The EPPO between EU internal and external security

The security challenges facing the EU are evolving, especially EPPO personal data processing activities, as well as illegal migration and terrorism. The role of CFSP/CSDP and the area of Freedom, Security and Justice in facing these challenges, as well as the issue of proper coordination between EPPO and the different EU agencies potentially involved will be addressed.

Participants: Benedetta Ubertazzi; Antonio Tanca.

## **Topic 6 - THE EPPO AND OTHER BODIES JOINING FORCES**

**3<sup>rd</sup> April 2024** | 16:30-18:30 | **building U7 – room 04**

### The EPPO Working Agreement with the European Commission

The EPPO has signed on 18 June 2021 an agreement with the European Commission. It establishes the modalities of cooperation between the European Public Prosecutor's Office and the European Commission for the purpose of protecting the financial interests of the EU.

Participants: Benedetta Ubertazzi; Emmanuel Farhat (online); Federica Iorio.

**8<sup>th</sup> April 2024** | 16:30-18:30 | **building U6 – room 05**

### The EPPO and banking supervisory authorities

In the European arena, the EPPO will have to develop links with banking supervisory authorities, which have a long-standing tradition of cooperation with judicial authorities. In the EU supervisory banking authorities play an important role to provide information and where appropriate technical expertise to national prosecutors. Such a role is supported by various provisions in the banking and anti-money laundering EU and national legislative framework. In this context, Banca d'Italia has a long-standing tradition for cooperation with judicial authorities. The presentation will illustrate the grounds for cooperation between supervisory authorities and criminal prosecutors and how such cooperation developed and supported by the European legislative framework. It is expected that EPPO will have to establish similar links with supervisory authorities.

Participants: Benedetta Ubertazzi; Graziano Grasso; Daniele Luison.

**9<sup>th</sup> April 2024** | 16:30-18:30 | **building U6 – room 26**

The EPPO working arrangements with the European Court of Auditors (ECA) and the Italian General Prosecutor's Office of the Court of Auditors ("Procura Generale presso la Corte dei conti")

The EPPO signed a working arrangement on 3 September 2021 with the ECA. The EPPO and the ECA share a common interest in maximising efficiency in the fight against fraud, corruption and any other criminal damage to the EU's financial interests, and in avoiding the duplication of effort wherever possible. This arrangement outlines the conditions for the close cooperation by which this can occur, in full respect of the respective mandates of the EPPO and the Court.

The EPPO signed a working arrangement on 13 September 2021 with the Italian General Prosecutor's Office of the Court of Auditors aiming to provide a structured framework for cooperation and to establish and maintain a cooperative relationship between them.

Participants: Benedetta Ubertazzi; Arturo Iadecola.

## **Topic 7 - THE EPPO PROTECTING EUROPEAN TAXPAYERS' MONEY FROM CRIMINALS**

**10<sup>th</sup> April 2024** | 16:30-18:30 | **building U7- room 04**

Main EPPO cases and convictions

The EPPO fights cross-border VAT frauds.

Case studies to be chosen among the most interesting ones (also from the didactic point of view).

Participants: Benedetta Ubertazzi; Antonio Fortarezza, Marina Palmulli.

**15<sup>th</sup> April 2024** | 16:30-18:30 | **building U6 – room 05**

Main EPPO cases

Case studies to be chosen among the most interesting ones (also from the didactic point of view) participated by the Italian Financial Police (Guardia di Finanza).

Participants: Benedetta Ubertazzi; Fabio Seragusa, Roberto Sciarretta.

**17<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

### **CLOSING CONFERENCE**

9:00 am-11:30 am | **building U6 – Aula Magna**

#### **EPPO: current developments**

Participants: Serena Crespi; Luca Ferro; Gianluca Forlani; Petr Klement; Natascia Marchei; Roberto Saviano; Stefano Screpanti, Pietro Suchan; Benedetta Ubertazzi.

|11:30-12:00| coffee break

#### **Dissemination: Website, Social Networks and Case Law Database on misuse of EU Funds**

Participants: Arturo Iadecola; Cesare Montagna, Antonio Fortarezza; Giulia Varisco.

#### **Education as an approach in preventing future criminal activity**

Participants: Veronica Carbone; Alessandro Fumagalli; Antonella Iannascoli; Michele Monopoli; Angelo Salimbeni.

#### **The EPPO's role in combatting trafficking in cultural goods for 2022-25**

Participants: Alicja Jagielska Burduk; Del Sere Marco; Andrzej Jakubowski; Lucas Lixinski

#### **Current issues related to EU agricultural law and fraud prevention**

Participants: Samuel Bolis; Esther Muniz Espada; Rocio Perteguer; Angelo Salimbeni

|13:30-14:30| buffet

|14:30-17:00| building U9 – Metaverse Laboratory

#### **The experimental VR pilot case of a serious game to simulate financial investigations**

Participants: Fabrizia Bemer, Alberto Gallace, Iman Khodri; Luca Pieri; Roberto Saviano; Sofia Mazza

## Participants

1. **Bemer Fabrizia** Senior Manager of the Office of International Judicial Cooperation and Senior Expert trainer in EIO trainings for projects co-financed by the European Commission; Chair of the Serious Game committee of the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence
2. **Bolis Samuel** Ph.D. in European Criminal Law, Avvocato e former Lieutenant Colonel in Guardia di Finanza
3. **Cacciatore Serena** Postdoctoral Researcher University of Burgos; Chair of the Interviews and Media Committee of the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence
4. **Carbone Veronica** Law student
5. **Castellani Stefano** European Delegated Prosecutor in Torino, nominated to substitute the European Prosecutor
6. **Ceccarelli Danilo** EPPO - Senior Coordinator – Fight against Organised Crime
7. **Crespi Serena** Associate Professor of EU Law, Milano – Bicocca School of Law
8. **De Sanna Fabrizio** Criminal Lawyer, Milan; Chair of the Criminal Lawyers committee of the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence
9. **Der Sere Marco** 1st Lt. (Ret.) Italian carabinieri corps - cultural heritage protection
10. **Farhat Emmanuel** EPPO – Principal Legal Officer
11. **Ferro Luca** Responsible of Art. 27 Office of the Prefettura of Milan
12. **Forlani Gianluca** Judge JHA Counsellor - Judicial Cooperation in criminal matters Italian Permanent Representation to EU
13. **Fortarezza Antonio** President of the anti-laundersing Commission of the Milan Chartered Accountants Bar, member of the anti-laundersing workgroup of the National Council of the Chartered Accountants and statutory auditor; Chair of the Editorial Committee and of the Chartered Accountants committee of the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence
14. **Fumagalli Alessandro** Lawyer – Chair of the High School Committee of the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence
15. **Gallace Alberto** Associate Professor of Psychobiology — University of Milano-Bicocca; Director of the Metaverse Laboratory
16. **Grasso Graziano** Adviser, Deputy Head of External Relations Division, Supervisory Dept., Banca d'Italia
17. **Hernandez Lopez Alejandro** Associate Professor of Procedural Law University of Valladolid – Postdoctoral Researcher “Margarita Salas”; Co-Chair of the Academic committee of the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence
18. **Honorati Costanza** Full Tenured Professor of EU Law, Milano-Bicocca School of Law
19. **Iadecola Arturo** Italian General Vice-Prosecutor of the Court of Auditors; Chair of the Judicial Bodies committee of the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence
20. **Iannascoli Antonella** Former Vice Dean of Beccaria High School Milan; Co-Chair of the High School committee of the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence
21. **Iorio Federica** Contracted professor of an introductory course on Competition Law and State Aid – Collège d'Europe
22. **Jagielska-Burduk Alicja** Holder of the UNESCO Chair in Cultural Heritage Law and currently working at the Faculty of Law and Administration of the University of Opole
23. **Jakubowski Andrzej** Rapporteur of the International Law Association's Committee on the Protection of Cultural Heritage and Armed Conflicts; Professor employed at the Institute of Legal Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Warsaw and Co-chair of the Cultural Heritage committee of the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence
24. **Klement Petr** Deputy European Chief Prosecutor; Chair of EU Institutions committee of the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence
25. **Khodri Iman** Law student
26. **Lixinski Lucas** Professor of International Cultural Heritage Law at the Faculty of Law, UNSW Sydney, Australia
27. **Luison Daniele** Chair of the Banking insurance and financial authorities committee of the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence
28. **Mamoli Federico** Civil Lawyer, Milan; Chair of the Criminal Lawyers committee of the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence
29. **Marchei Natascia** Director of the Milano-Bicocca School of Law, and Full Tenured professor of Ecclesiastical and Canon Law
30. **Marciano Alessandro** Référendaire (law clerk), Chambers of Judge Küllike Jürimäe, Court of Justice of the European Union

31. **Mazza Oliviero** Full tenured Professor of Criminal Procedure, Milano-Bicocca School of Law
32. **Monopoli Michele** Former Dean of Beccaria High School Milan; Chair of the High Schoolcommittee of the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence
33. **Montagna Cesare** Milan Chartered Accountants Bar and Co-Chair of the Chartered Accountants committee of the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence
34. **Muniz Espada Esther** Full Professor of civil law University of Valladolid, Spain and chair of the Committee European Council of Rural Law (consultative body for EU and FAO) and Chair of the Committee of the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence
35. **Palmulli Marina** Real Estate Agent of Milan, Chair of the Real Estate Agents committee of the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence
36. **Perteguer Rocio** vocal de medioambiente del Colegio Nacional de Registradores, Madrid Spain
37. **Petito Michele** Customs Officer responsible for Relations with the European Public Prosecutor's Office
38. **Pieri Luca** PhD - XR Specialist & Project Manager at the Metaverse Laboratory Mibtec
39. **Radu Florin Razvan** (Principal Legal Officer, EPPO Legal Service; Chair of EU Institutionscommittee of the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence
40. **Salazar Lorenzo** Deputy Prosecutor General to the Court of Appeal of Naples
41. **Salimbeni Angelo** law student
42. **Saviano Roberto** Writer, essayist, journalist and screenwriter
43. **Sciarretta Roberto** Commander of the Economic-Financial Police Unit of the Milan Finance Police
44. **Screpanti Stefano** Lieutenant General of the Italian Financial and Economic Police
45. **Seragusa Fabio** lieutenant colonel; head of the third budget protection group within the economic and financial police unite of Milan
46. **Sticchi Iliaria** Secretary of the College of the EU Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO); Chair of the Academic committee of the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence
47. **Suchan Pietro** Professor of "Legislation for the protection of the economy and security", Academy of the Guardia di Finanza; former magistrate-assistant in the Italian representative – Eurojust; Chair of the Prosecutors committee of the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence
48. **Tanca Antonio** Professor of European Union Common Security and Defence Policy – University of Milano-Bicocca
49. **Tavassi Ludovica** Researcher in Procedural Criminal Law – University of Milano-Bicocca
50. **Traversa Enrico** Former Director of the "Justice" Team of European Commission Legal Service; Professor of European Labour Law - University of Bologna; Chair hair of the Academic committee of the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence
51. **Ubertazzi Benedetta** Associate Professor of EU Law, Milano-Bicocca School of Law; Director of the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence and Chair of the Steering committee of the Centre of Excellence
52. **Varisco Giulia** law student
53. **Venegoni Andrea** European Prosecutor

- supported by the European Parliament
- accredited by the Milan Bar Association and by the NationalBar Council.
- Accredited by chartered accountants.
- Inserted in high school students activities within the context of PCTO<sup>1</sup> and the NRRP (National Recovery and Resilience Plan).

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However, the views and opinions expressed are only those of the author(s).

They do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Education and Culture Executive Agency

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<sup>1</sup> The PCTO project (commonly known as school-work alternance) is an educational method designed to allow high school students to combine the mostly theoretical scholastic education with a practical work experience within a private or public entity. PCTO implies periods of professional formation in enterprises or other activities that may strengthen the students' integration into the labour market (i.e. orientation days, meetings with companies and professionals, internships, research, project work etc.). The alternance has been made mandatory since 2015.