

EPPO and EU Law

(Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence - STEPPO)



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The EPPO'S Characteristics, Principles and Structure

LECTURER: Alejandro Hernández



The EPPO'S Characteristics, principles and structure

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I. Characteristics



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Relevant Legal Framework

- Art. 86 TFEU
- Regulation (EU) 2017/1939 – Chapters II and III
- Internal rules of procedure of the EPPO (consolidated version) – Title II
- Decisions of the College ([Public access here](#))



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Art. 86 TFEU – Primary Law characteristics

1. In order to combat crimes affecting the financial interests of the Union, the Council, by means of regulations adopted in accordance with a special legislative procedure, may establish a European Public Prosecutor's Office from Eurojust. The Council shall act unanimously after obtaining the consent of the European Parliament.
 - In the absence of unanimity in the Council, a group of at least nine Member States may request that the draft regulation be referred to the European Council. In that case, the procedure in the Council shall be suspended. After discussion, and in case of a consensus, the European Council shall, within four months of this suspension, refer the draft back to the Council for adoption.
 - Within the same timeframe, in case of disagreement, and if at least nine Member States wish to establish enhanced cooperation on the basis of the draft regulation concerned, they shall notify the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission accordingly. In such a case, the authorisation to proceed with enhanced cooperation referred to in Article 20(2) of the Treaty on European Union and Article 329(1) of this Treaty shall be deemed to be granted and the provisions on enhanced cooperation shall apply.
2. The European Public Prosecutor's Office shall be responsible for investigating, prosecuting and bringing to judgment, where appropriate in liaison with Europol, the perpetrators of, and accomplices in, offences against the Union's financial interests, as determined by the regulation provided for in paragraph 1. It shall exercise the functions of prosecutor in the competent courts of the Member States in relation to such offences.
3. The regulations referred to in paragraph 1 shall determine the general rules applicable to the European Public Prosecutor's Office, the conditions governing the performance of its functions, the rules of procedure applicable to its activities, as well as those governing the admissibility of evidence, and the rules applicable to the judicial review of procedural measures taken by it in the performance of its functions.
4. The European Council may, at the same time or subsequently, adopt a decision amending paragraph 1 in order to extend the powers of the European Public Prosecutor's Office to include serious crime having a cross-border dimension and amending accordingly paragraph 2 as regards the perpetrators of, and accomplices in, serious crimes affecting more than one Member State. The European Council shall act unanimously after obtaining the consent of the European Parliament and after consulting the Commission.

Art. 86 TFEU: From Eurojust?

What does it mean? Pre-EPPO Regulation discussion...

- ✘ A body linked to Eurojust, either using its administrative structure or its staff, establishing a relationship of interdependence between the two bodies
- ✘ A body established from the administrative structure of Eurojust and which would exercise supervisory functions over the operational work of Eurojust
- ✘ A body established on the basis of Eurojust structure, but with a completely separate scope and mandate
- ✘ A body established on the basis of Eurojust and which will replace this agency, becoming its natural successor

What does it actually involve?

- **EPPO has not been established “from” Eurojust** - [Regulation (EU) 2017/1939 (EPPO Reg) vs Regulation (EU) 2018/1727 (Eurojust Reg)]
- **Recital 10 EPPO Reg:** “In accordance with Article 86 TFEU, the EPPO should be established from Eurojust. This implies that this Regulation should establish a close relationship between them based on mutual cooperation”.
- The current relationship between the EPPO and Eurojust is not only based on mutual cooperation (e.g. operational work), but in complementarity (e.g. material scope of application). There are also **strong links at the institutional and administrative level**.
- Details: **Working arrangement between the EPPO and Eurojust** (February 2021)



Art. 86 TFEU: investigating, prosecuting and bringing to judgment (...)

What does it mean?

- **Totally new approach** in EU integration: truly autonomous powers in criminal matters granted to an EU body for the first time
- **EPPO is the Prosecution office of the EU**: powers are equivalent to those already granted to Public Prosecutors in (some) Member States (Investigate, prosecute, bringing to judgment)
- **EPPO Reg determines the conditions governing the performance of its functions**, the rules of procedure applicable to its activities (including admissibility of evidence and judicial review)
- **Criminal proceedings are conducted before national courts**

What is it in practice?

- **Shared competences between the EPPO and the national authorities**: Centralised and decentralised level structure
- **National Criminal Procedure law of Member States mainly applies to EPPO proceedings (and also substantive criminal law).**
- Comprehensive Judicial Review system: National (main system) and supranational (specific acts)

Art. 86 TFEU: PIF crimes?

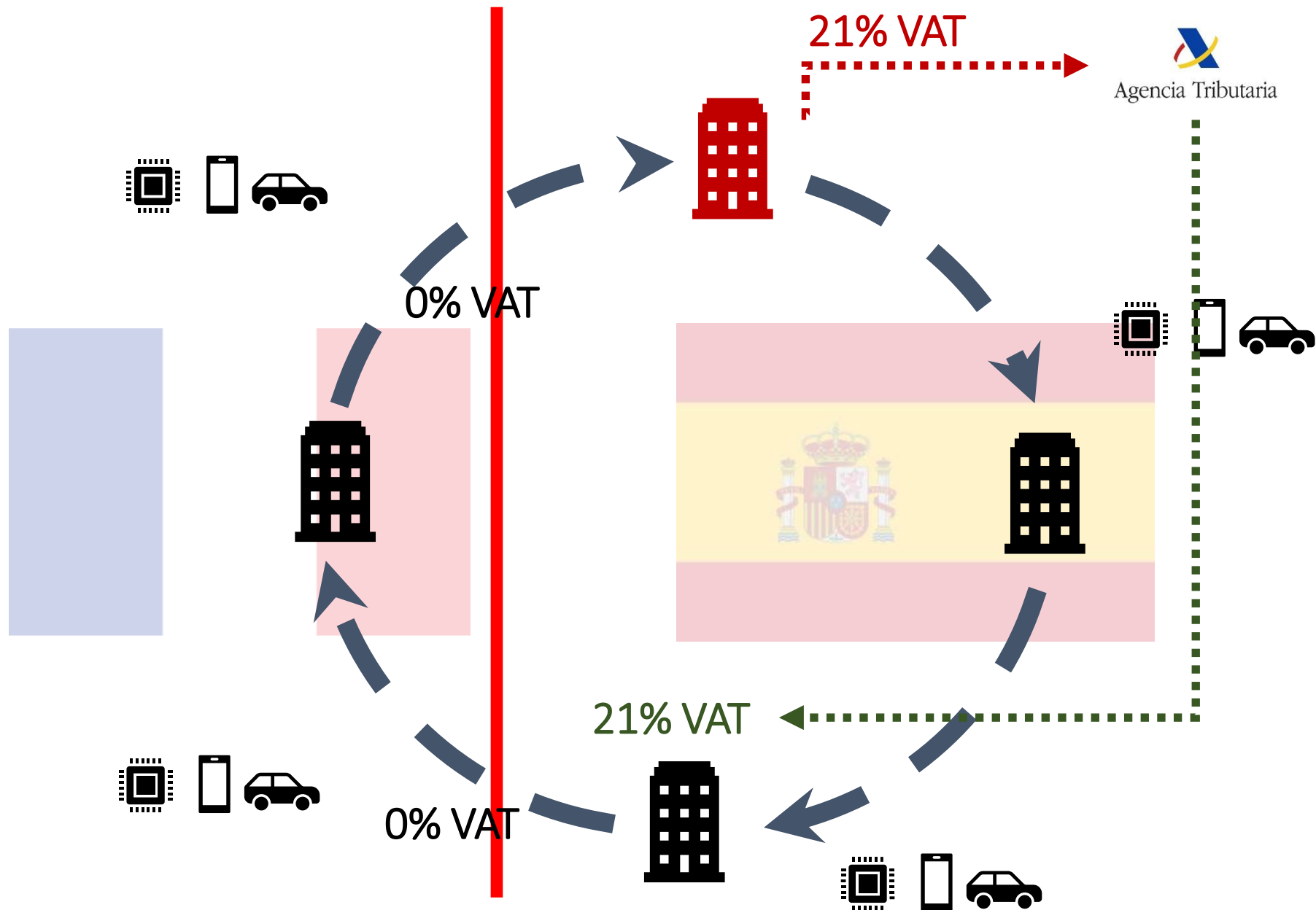
What does it mean?

- PIF Offences provided for in **Directive (EU) 2017/1371 as implemented by national law.**
- This is translated into the **material scope of competence of the EPPO**
 - **PIF Offences** provided for in Directive (EU) 2017/1371 as implemented by national law
 - **VAT fraud:** cross-border dimension involving a damage of at least EUR 10 million (e.g. VAT carousel fraud)
 - **Participation in a criminal organisation if the focus of criminal organisation is to commit PIF offences**
 - **Any criminal offence inextricably linked to a PIF offence;** money laundering

Is it limited to PIF Crimes?

- **Currently it is limited to PIF crimes and criminal offences inextricably linked to a PIF offence.**
- **Art. 86 TFEU allows to extend the powers** of the European Public Prosecutor's Office to include serious crime having a cross-border dimension . Can be extended in the future [e.g. cross-border terrorist crimes, see COM(2018) 641 final]
- **Conflicts of competence:** In the case of disagreement between the EPPO and the national prosecution authorities, national authorities competent to decide on the attribution of competences concerning prosecution at national level shall decide who is to be competent for the investigation of the case
 - The national decision can be subject to a judicial review by the ECJ via Art. 267 TFEU.
 - This can be problematic in practice: e.g. Spanish regime: competent authority to decide may vary (General Prosecutor or Supreme Court)

VAT CAROUSEL FRAUD – BASIC SCHEME



EPPO: Main Characteristics

- EPPO is an **independent body of the European Union** with own legal personality
- **Prosecution office of the European Union**
- Material scope of competence is currently limited to **PIF crimes**
 - Territoriality and active personality principles also applies
- 22 participant Member States
 - Non-participants: Hungary, Ireland, Poland and Sweden (may join in the future)
 - Denmark (opt-out from AFSJ)
- Operational phase started on 1 June 2021



EPPO Headquarters in Luxembourg

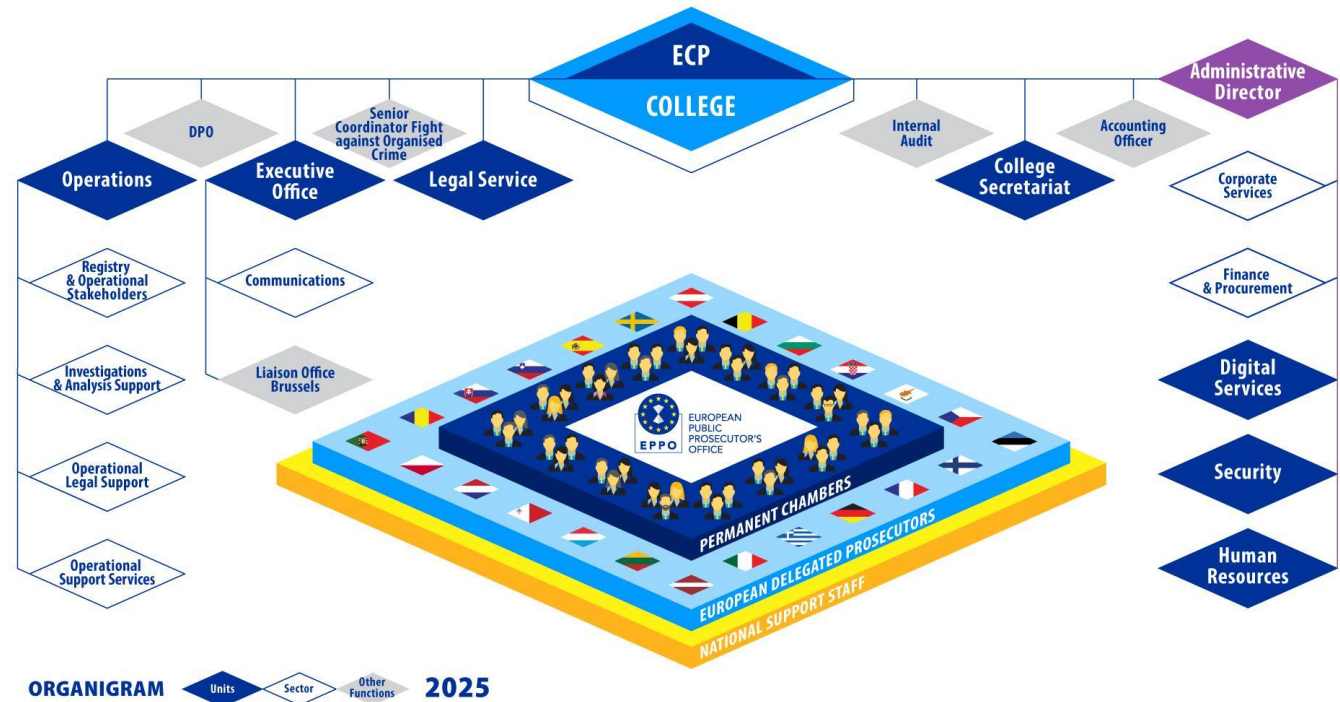
EPPO: Basic Principles

- **Independence**
 - Shall act in the interest of the Union as a whole and neither seek nor take external instructions
 - Rule of law
 - Accountability: European Parliament, Council and Commission
- **Respect the rights enshrined in the CFREU**
- **Proportionality**
- **Impartiality**
- **Shared competence with national authorities**
- **Sincere cooperation**



EPPO Structure Overview

- The EPPO is an indivisible Union body which operates as one single office with a decentralised structure
- Central structure (The College, European Chief Prosecutor, European Prosecutors, Permanent Chambers, Administrative Director)
- Decentralised structure (European Delegated Prosecutors)
- Assisted in their work by a number of experts in areas including administrative, technical, operational and legal-technical support.



<https://www.eppo.europa.eu/en/about/structure-and-characteristics>



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II. Structure



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III. Judicial Review



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Judicial review system:

Combines National Judicial review (main) with supranational judicial review (specific acts)



- **National Judicial Review – National Courts**

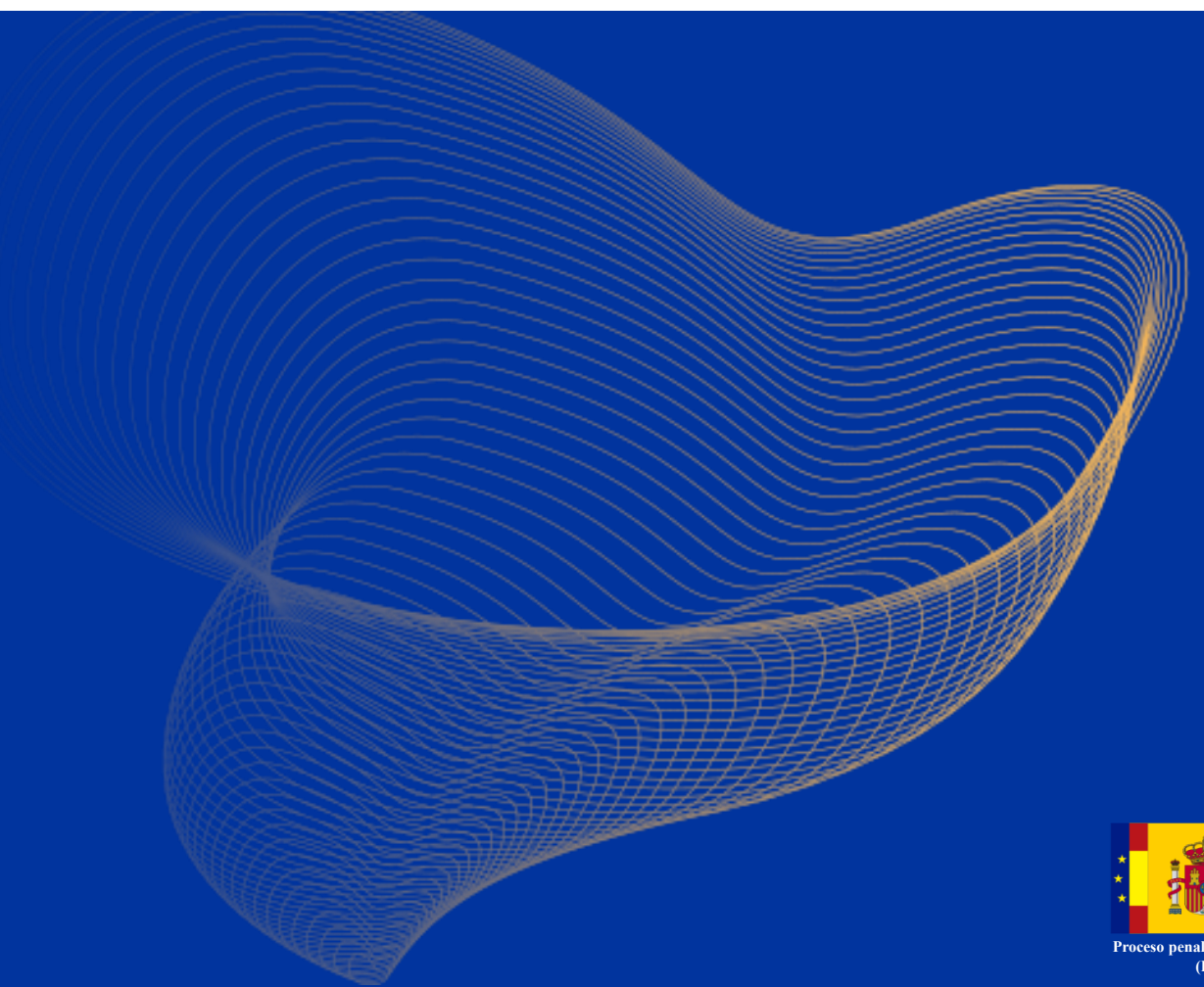
- All procedural acts of the EPPO that are intended to produce legal effects vis-à-vis third parties shall be subject to review by the competent national courts in accordance with the requirements and procedures laid down by national law
 - See case **C-292/23** (pending)
- All failures of the EPPO to adopt procedural acts which are intended to produce legal effects vis-à-vis third parties and which it was legally required to adopt under this Regulation

- **Supranational Judicial Review – ECJ**

- In accordance with Art. 267 TFEU (preliminary ruling requests)
 - the validity of procedural acts of the EPPO, in so far as such a question of validity is raised before any court or tribunal of a Member State directly on the basis of Union law
 - Interpretation or validity of Union Law (especially EPPO Reg)
 - Conflicts of competence between the EPPO and competent national authorities
 - See e **ATS 9109/2022**, ECLI:ES:TS:2022:9109A; **ATS 1764/2023** ECLI:ES:TS:2023:1764A
- In accordance with Art. 263 TFEU (annulment): any natural or legal person may institute proceedings against decisions that affect data subject's rights or decisions that are not procedural acts (e.g. decision dismissing EDPs)
- In accordance with Arts. 268, 270 and 272 TFEU: Damage, staff-related matters, arbitration clauses in contracts
- In accordance with EPPO Reg: Dismissal of the ECP or European Prosecutors



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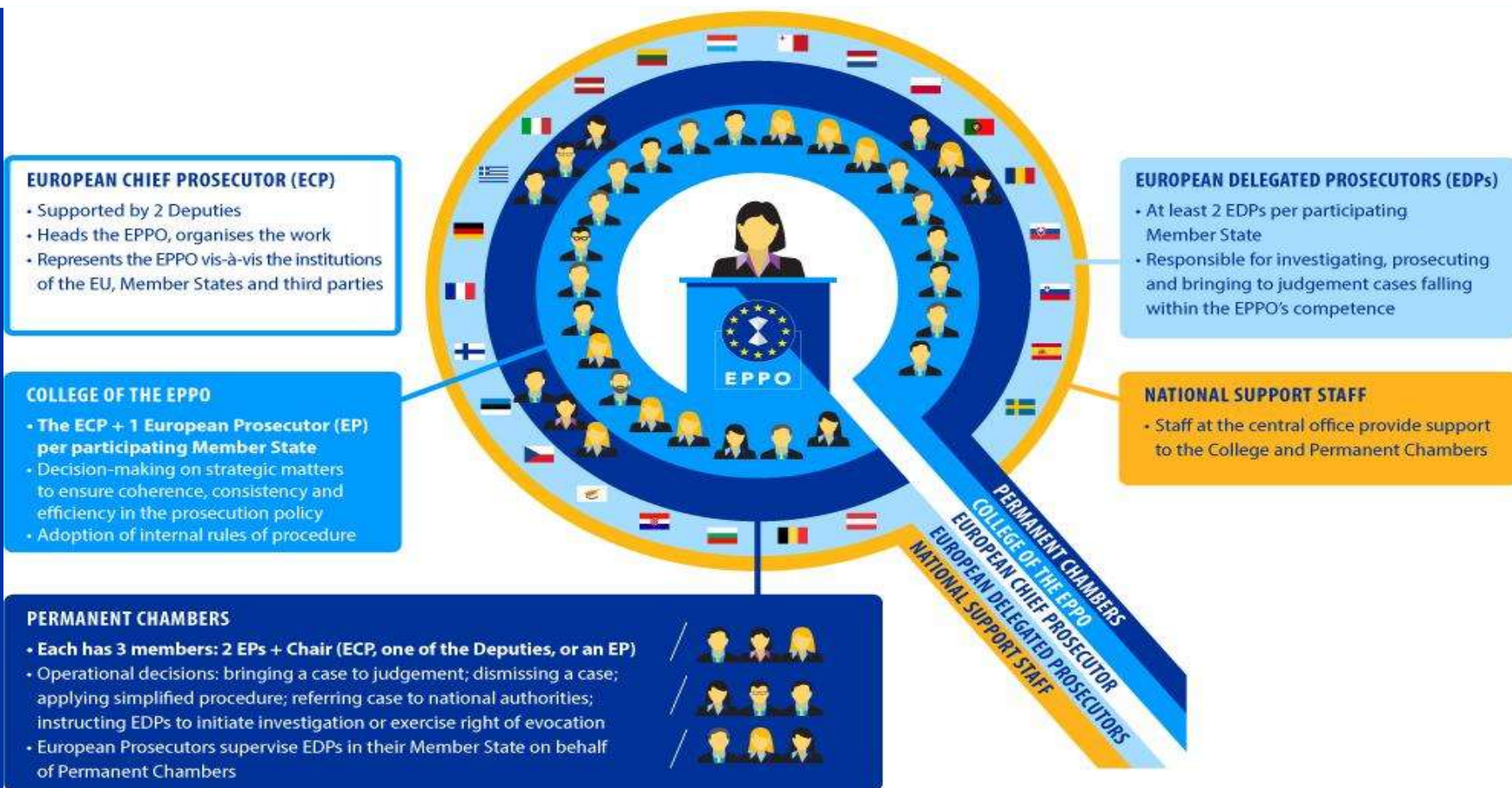


EPPO structure

LECTURER: Ilaria Sticchi



EPPO infographic



EUROPEAN CHIEF PROSECUTOR (ECP)

- Supported by 2 Deputies
- Heads the EPPO, organises the work
- Represents the EPPO vis-à-vis the institutions of the EU, Member States and third parties

COLLEGE OF THE EPPO

- The ECP + 1 European Prosecutor (EP) per participating Member State
- Decision-making on strategic matters to ensure coherence, consistency and efficiency in the prosecution policy
- Adoption of internal rules of procedure

PERMANENT CHAMBERS

- Each has 3 members: 2 EPs + Chair (ECP, one of the Deputies, or an EP)
- Operational decisions: bringing a case to judgement; dismissing a case; applying simplified procedure; referring case to national authorities; instructing EDPs to initiate investigation or exercise right of evocation
- European Prosecutors supervise EDPs in their Member State on behalf of Permanent Chambers

EUROPEAN DELEGATED PROSECUTORS (EDPs)

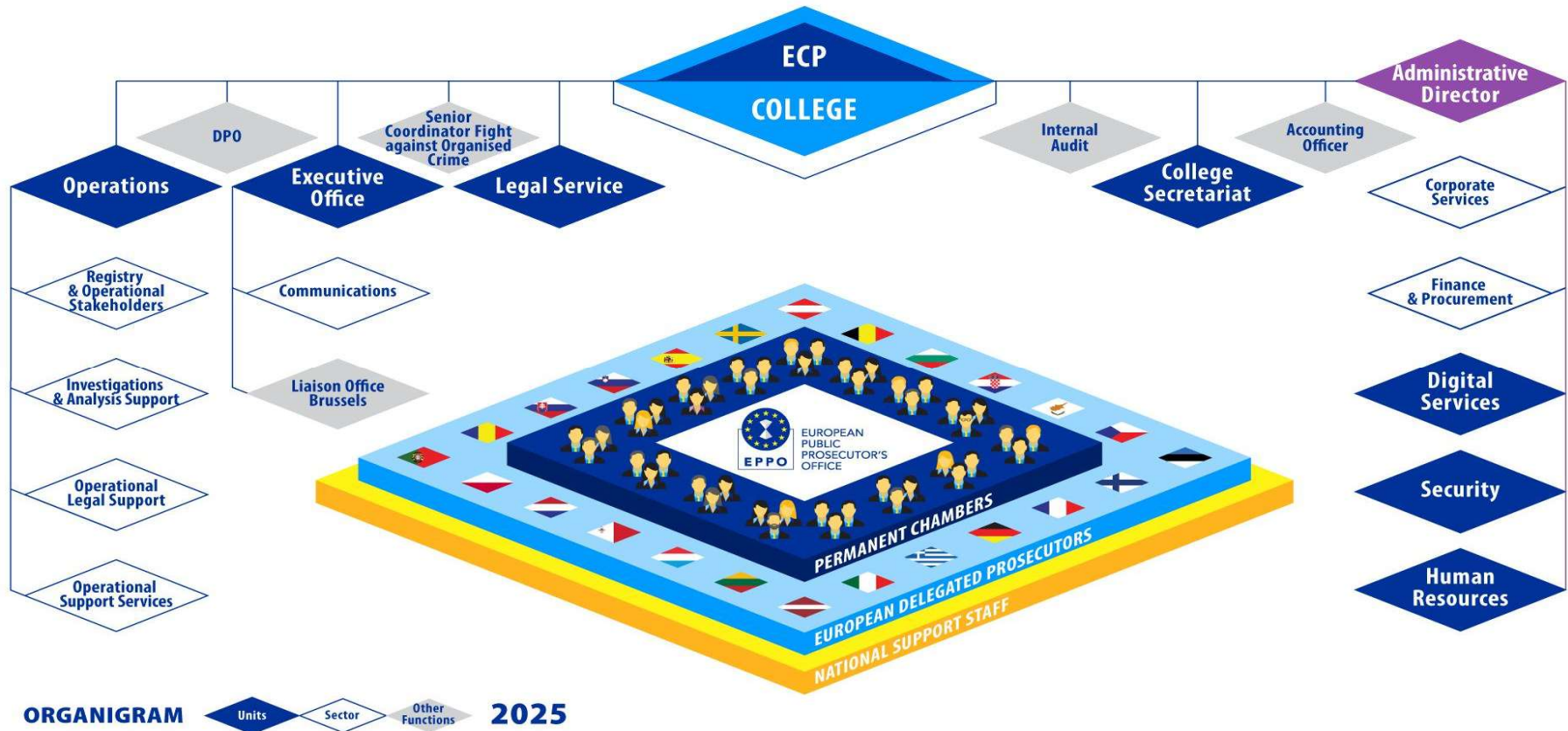
- At least 2 EDPs per participating Member State
- Responsible for investigating, prosecuting and bringing to judgement cases falling within the EPPO's competence

NATIONAL SUPPORT STAFF

- Staff at the central office provide support to the College and Permanent Chambers

PERMANENT CHAMBERS
 COLLEGE OF THE EPPO
 EUROPEAN CHIEF PROSECUTOR
 EUROPEAN DELEGATED PROSECUTORS
 NATIONAL SUPPORT STAFF

Organisational chart of the EPPO





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COLLEGE of the EPPO



- ▶ Chaired by the European Chief Prosecutor + 24 European Prosecutors (1 per participating Member State)

ROLE:

- ▶ Decision-making on strategic matters:
 - The College of the EPPO is responsible for the **general oversight** of its activities, for taking **decisions on strategic matters**, and for **general issues arising from individual cases**, in particular with a view to **ensuring coherence, efficiency and consistency** in the prosecution policy of the EPPO throughout the participating Member States.
 - **No operational decisions on cases**



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College of the EPPO - Infographic

Chief Prosecutor



Laura Codruța Kövesi

7 year term

Not renewable

Appointed by common accord of the Council
and the European Parliament



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College of the EPPO

6 year term: can be extended maximum 3 years
One per EPPO participating member state

Not renewable

Appointed by the Council



 Ursula Schmudermayer




 Yves Van Den Berge



 Teodora Georgieva



 Tamara Laptoš



 Anne Pantazi Lamprou



 Petr Klemen



 Kristel Siitam-Nyiri



 Harri Tiesmaa



 Frédéric Baab



 Andrés Ritter



 Nikolaos Paschalis



 Andrea Venegoni



 Gatis Doniks




 Gedgaudas Norkūnas



 Gabriel Seixas



 Yvonne Farrugia



 Miranda de Meijer



 José António Lopes Ranito



 Cătălin-Laurențiu Borcoman



 Juraj Novocký



 Jaka Brezigar



 Ignacio de Lucas



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College of the EPPO

Council of the EU

12 December 2024 12:10

EU Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO): Council appoints European prosecutors for Poland and Sweden

The Council appointed two new European prosecutors to the European Public Prosecutor's Office: Ms Grażyna STRONIKOWSKA for Poland and Mr Martin BRESMAN for Sweden.

Council of the EU

11 February 2026 16:55

EPPO: Council appoints new prosecutors for Belgium and Czechia

The Council appointed two new prosecutors to the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO): Jennifer Vanderputten for Belgium and Pavel Zeman for Czechia.



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College of the EPPO – functions and tasks

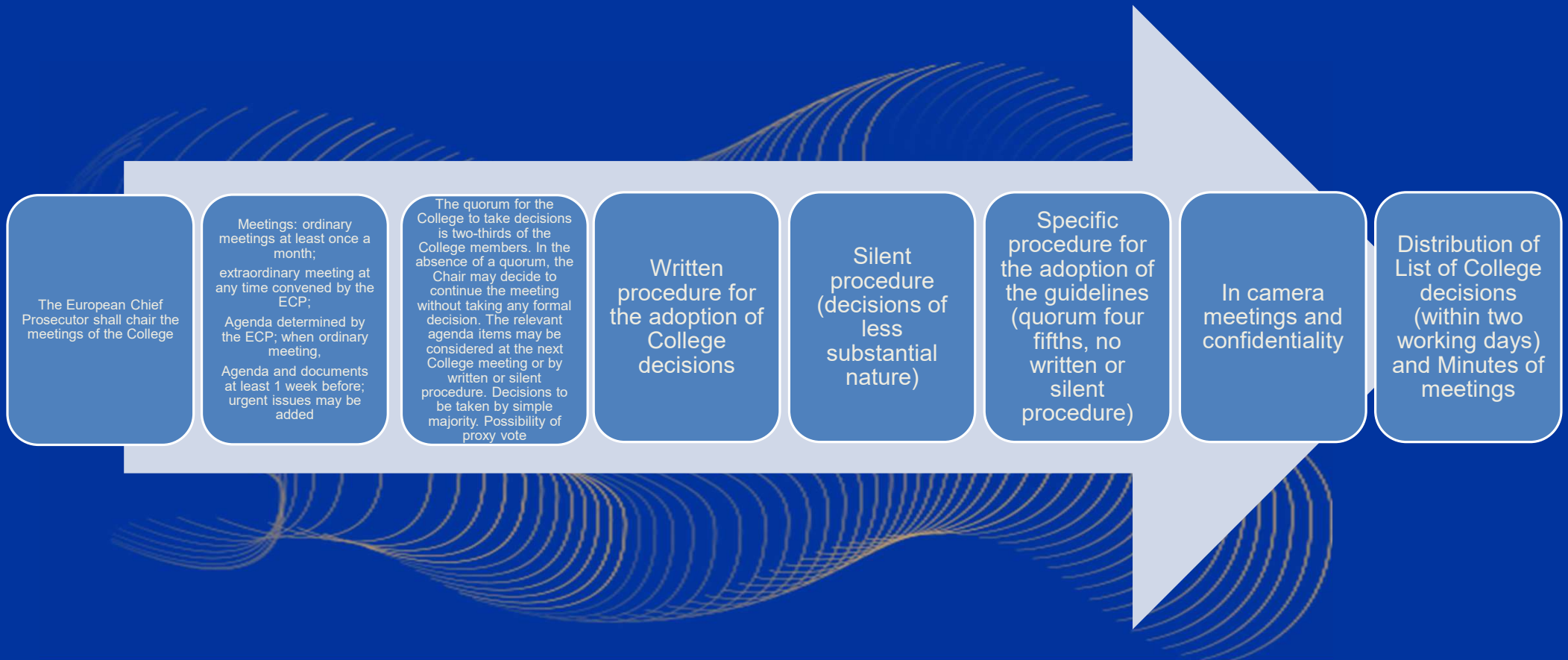
- Adopts the estimated **budget of the EPPO** and the budget of the EPPO in accordance with Article 92(2) and, respectively, Article 92(7) of the EPPO Regulation;
- adopts the **decisions** referred to in Articles 98 (**Seconded National Experts and other staff**), 107 (2) (**EPPO's internal language regime**), 109 (2) (**access to documents**), 114 of the EPPO Regulation (**anti-fraud strategy, annual and multiannual programming document, conditions of employment; security strategy, Appraisal rules for EDPs, ect.**);
- adopts **guidelines (Guidelines*) pursuant to Article 9(2) of the EPPO Regulation**, as provided for in **Articles 25 (2)** (EPPO competence for a criminal offence where they damage the Union's financial interests below EUR 10 000), **27 (8)** (an offence causing or likely to cause damage to the Union's financial interests of less than EUR 100 000), **34 (3)** (competence of national authorities in cases where a criminal offence causing or likely to cause damage to the Union's financial interests of less than EUR 100 000, and 40 (2) (Permanent Chamber adopts a decision on the proposal of the handling European Delegated Prosecutor taking into account the following reasons: (a) the seriousness of the offence, on the basis, in particular, of the damage caused; (b) the intention of the suspect to make good the damage caused by the unlawful conduct; (c) compliance of the use of the procedure with the general objectives and basic principles of the EPPO set out in this Regulation).
- appointment and dismissal of the Deputy European Chief Prosecutor, pursuant to Article 15 (1) and (2);
- **designation of a European Delegated Prosecutor of the same Member State as an alternate of the European Prosecutor**, in accordance with Article 16(7);
- **appointment and dismissal of European Delegated Prosecutors**, in accordance with Article 17 (1), (3) and (4);
- **appointment and dismissal of the Administrative Director and evaluation of his/her duties**, in accordance with Article 18 (2), (3), (4), (6) and (7);
- **designate the Data Protection Officer** of the EPPO in accordance with Article 77(1) of the EPPO Regulation



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College's decision-making process





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Permanent Chambers - composition



15 PCs

The PCs play a significant role in the **investigation and prosecution procedure**.

- PCs decide on the **exercise EPPO competence (see next slides)**
- PCs take all **main decisions** throughout the whole criminal proceedings
- Novelty for a prosecution office
- Ensure independence, and decision-making at EU level
- The **Permanent Chambers** monitor and direct the investigations and prosecutions conducted by the EDPs
- Formed by 3 European Prosecutors with the participation of the supervising European Prosecutor from the Member State in which the investigation is conducted
- Random, automatic case allocation

CHAIR

- ✓ ECP (1) and each DECP (2) shall chair the PC of which they are permanent members (PM)
- ✓ The other Chairs of the PC's have been appointed amongst the EP's by the College
- ✓ Permanent Member

TWO PERMANENT MEMBERS

- ✓ Appointment amongst the EP's

SUPERVISING EUROPEAN PROSECUTOR

- ✓ «Expert member» from MS the case at hand originates from
- ✓ Not permanent



Material competence of the EPPO*



Expenditure and customs fraud.

VAT fraud involving two or more Member States and total damages of at least €10 million.

Corruption that damages the financial interests of the EU.

Misappropriation of EU funds or assets by a public official.

Money laundering involving property derived from these crimes.

Participation in a criminal organisation with focus on PIF offences.

Any other ‘**inextricably linked**’ offences.



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Territorial competence of the EPPO*



Offences committed in whole or in part **within the territory** of the 24 participating Member States

An offence is considered as having been committed on the territory of BE/LU (where the EU institutions are located) if any constituent element of the offence has taken place on their territory, *for example*:

Damage takes place in BE/LU (expenditure fraud) (EU funds disbursed from BE/LU)

False documents received in BE/LU by an EU body

Offences committed **anywhere** outside the combined territories of the participating Member States:

by a national of a participating Member State

by an EU official



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Territorial competence of the EPPO*

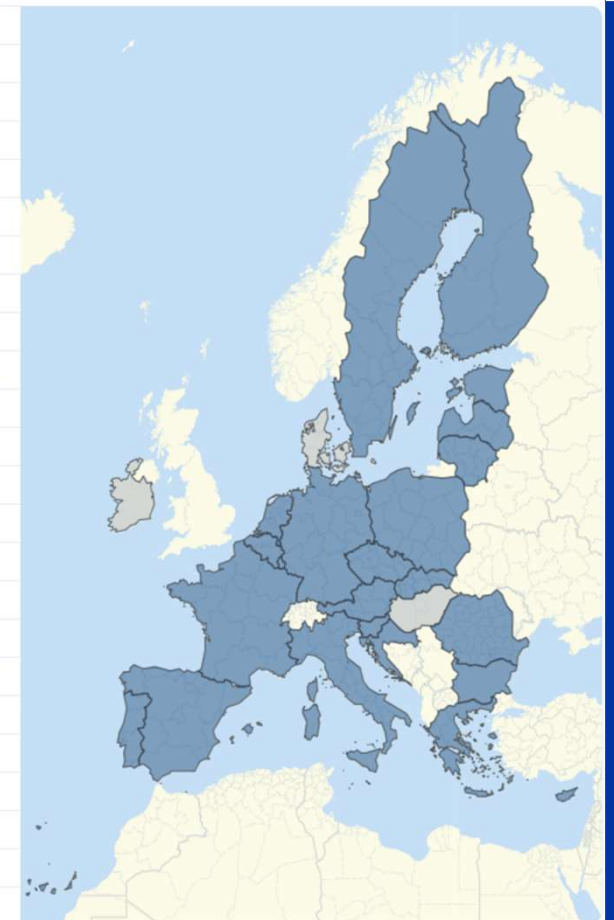


- **Twenty-four** EU Member States decided to join the EPPO and participate in the enhanced cooperation.
- *Commission Decision (EU) 2024/807 of 29 February 2024 confirmed the participation of Poland.*
- *Commission Decision (EU) 2024/1952 of 16 July 2024 confirmed the participation of Sweden.*

Three non-participating EU Member States

- **Denmark** does not take part in the AFSJ (Protocol no. 22 to TFEU): it cannot take part in any EU Regulations, unless the Denmark Constitution and the Protocol are amended.
- **Ireland** has an opt in/out to the AFSJ (Protocol no. 21 to TFEU): it may decide to opt-in and join the EPPO (under discussion).
- **Hungary** decided not to join at the time of establishment, but they may join the EPPO at a later stage.

	Austria
	Belgium
	Bulgaria
	Croatia
	Cyprus
	Czechia
	Estonia
	Finland
	France
	Germany
	Greece
	Italy
	Latvia
	Lithuania
	Luxembourg
	Malta
	Netherlands
	Poland
	Portugal
	Romania
	Slovakia
	Slovenia
	Spain
	Sweden





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Territorial competence of the EPPO*



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- by a national of a participating Member State
- by an EU official





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The origin of an EPPO case

Reporting: Article 24 EPPO Regulation

IBOAs and NA competent under applicable national law shall without undue delay report to the EPPO any criminal conduct in respect of which it could exercise its competence in accordance with Article 22, 25(2) (3) EPPO Regulation.

In addition, private party reports and own-initiative investigations based on press monitoring, etc.



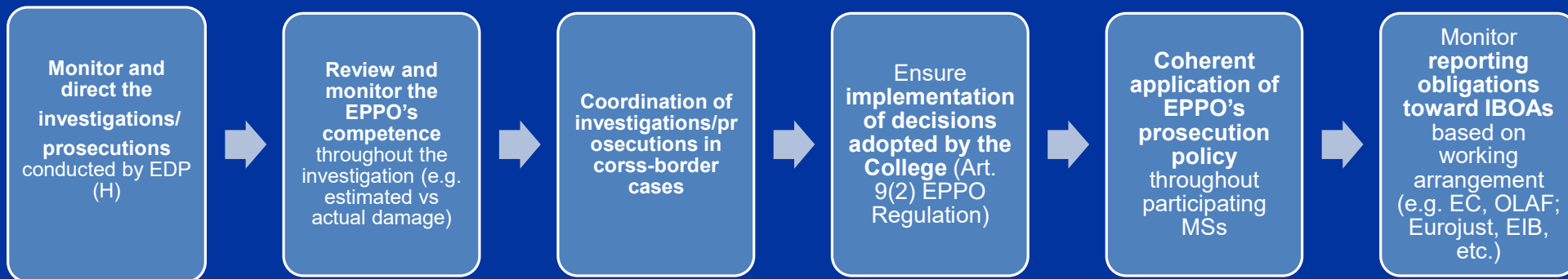
REGISTRATION CASE IS CREATED

Allocation: system of random allocation of case via Case Management System (CMS) of the PCs
Verification: Registration and verification mechanism to establish based on the information received, if the EPPO is competent to investigate



NON-EXERCISE DECISION OR INVESTIGATION CASE IS CREATED

Main duties of PCs





Main powers of PCs

Permanent Chambers at the Heart of the EPPO's Decision-Making

Decision related to the EPPO competence	Direction of the investigation and prosecution
Instruct the EDP to initiate an investigation = no ongoing investigation on the national level	During the course of an investigation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Instructions to the EDP in compliance with the applicable national law <input type="checkbox"/> Reallocation, split or merge decision
Instruct EDP to evoke an investigation = taking over an ongoing investigation conducted by national authorities	Completion of the investigation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Bring a case to judgement <input type="checkbox"/> Dismiss a case <input type="checkbox"/> Simplified prosecution procedure <input type="checkbox"/> Refer a case to national authorities
	After the investigation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Lodging an appeal <input type="checkbox"/> Reopen an investigation





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PCs' decision-making process and timing of PCs meeting

- In principle the handling EDP proposes a decision to the Permanent Chamber
- Deliberations during the ordinary, additional or urgent PC meetings
- Voting : simply majority; each member has one vote; Chair has a casting vote; EP(S) will participating in voting, except in situations in Article 10(9) EPPO Regulation
- PC Decision
- 365 days availability through duty chambers
- Ordinary meetings: in general, 2 meetings per month
- Additional and urgent meetings: depending of the necessity of the cases



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ECP and Deputies (DECPS)



Chief Prosecutor (Article 11 (1) of the EPPO Regulation)	Deputy Prosecutors (Article 11 (2) of the EPPO Regulation)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ She is the head of the EPPO, organises its work and directs its activities.▪ She is also the President of a Permanent Chamber.▪ She represents the EPPO externally▪ Does not instruct EP or EDP on how to direct investigations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assist the Chief Prosecutor in the performance of his/her duties• Replace the Chief Prosecutor when he/she is absent or unable to perform his/her duties

European Prosecutors (EPs)



Article 12 EPPO Regulation	
(1)	Supervision of cases in their Member States
(1) and [2]	Temporary replacement due to temporary absence from their duties (decision of the Chief Prosecutor)
(2)	Reallocation of the case due to excessive workload or conflict of interest (decision of the Chief Prosecutor)
(1) and (5)	<p>Powers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • supervising investigations and prosecutions on behalf of the competent Permanent Chamber • where necessary, intervention and instruction on investigations and judicial proceedings <p>Duties:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • submit summaries of cases under their supervision to the Permanent Chamber of the Permanent Chamber (Article 12 (1)), probably to enable the Permanent Chamber to take decisions; • where appropriate, submit proposals for decisions to be taken by the competent Permanent Chamber (Article 12 (1)); and • ensure that all relevant information (on the particular case and on all other developments in his Member State of origin concerning the fair and effective functioning of the EPPO in general) is provided to the Central Office (Article 12 (5)).
(3)	<p>Power to give instructions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instructions are guidance on how to handle a concrete investigation or prosecution in general, what investigative strategies or means of persecution should be implemented, and how to implement them. • In any case, the supervising European Prosecutor cannot de facto recruit the investigations, but may do so de jure only under the conditions and in accordance with the strict procedures referred to in Article 28(4). • developed in Article 28(4) (seriousness of the offence, in particular in view of its possible repercussions at Union level; where the investigation concerns officials or other servants of the Union or members of the institutions of the Union). Instructions should only be given in a specific case.
(4)	Internal review of certain acts within the bodies of the National Prosecutor's Office



European Prosecutors (EPs)



- As clarified by recital 28:

"The European Prosecutors should in principle scrutinise, on behalf of the competent Permanent Chamber, the investigations and prosecutions handled by the European Delegated Prosecutors in their Member State of origin.

They should liaise between the central office and the decentralised level in their Member States, facilitating the functioning of the EPPO as a single office.'

- The EPs as officials of the EPPO should not act as representatives of their Member States of origin, but rather as agents of an independent EPPO acting as an indivisible body of the Union (Article 8(1)).

- Other duties and powers of the **European Prosecutors**, which are contained in the Regulation outside Article 12, include:

- ✓ Article 10 (7) and (9) (decision-making powers in certain cases delegated by the Permanent Chamber and participation in the deliberations of that chamber);
- ✓ Article 11(3) (representing the EPPO if the European Chief Prosecutor delegates this task to a European Prosecutor);
- ✓ Article 13(3) (consultation of the **competent national prosecution authorities and proposed to the Permanent Chamber for the reallocation** of the case if the European Delegated Prosecutor is unable to carry out his/her duties);
- ✓ Article 28 (3) and (4) (proposed to the competent Permanent Chamber to reassign the case to another European Delegated Prosecutor or to conduct the investigations personally in exceptional cases);
- ✓ Article 31(6) (action on cross-border investigations).



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European Delegated Prosecutors (EDPs)

Article 13 EPPO Regulation

(1)	<p>Applicable law:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a European Delegated Prosecutor draws directly from the EPPO Regulation as a source of legislation and, as a secondary source, from his or her national law. • The European Delegated Prosecutors shall have the same powers as national prosecutors with regard to investigations, prosecutions and indictment.
(1)	functional competence of the European Delegated Prosecutors.
(2)	<p>EDP per Member State: at least 2</p> <p>The exact number (two or more) of European Delegated Prosecutors and their European/national tasks must be approved by the European Chief Prosecutor after consulting and reaching an agreement with the competent authorities of each Member State. The total number of European Delegated Prosecutors in a Member State may be amended with the approval of the European Chief Prosecutor, within the limits of the annual budget line of the EPPO.</p>

NEW CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT OF EDPS ADOPTED ON 12.02.2025 College Decision 015/2025



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European Delegated Prosecutors (EDPs)

➤ Competence of EDPs

- investigations and prosecutions of the EPPO should be conducted by the European Delegated Prosecutors in the Member States (i) where they have started by themselves and (ii) in case they have been attributed to them by the PCs

➤ Powers and duties:

- Article 16(7) (replace a European Prosecutor)
- Article 26(1) (launch an investigation and record it in the case management system)
- Article 27(6) (right of evocation)
- Article 28(1) (execution of investigative measures and other measures on their own or on instructions from the competent authorities of their Member State);
- Article 30(1) (right to order or request investigative measures);
- Articles 31 (cross-border investigations);
- Article 33(1) (order or request the arrest or pre-trial detention of the suspect or accused person)
- Article 35(1) (submission of a report containing the summary of the investigation and the draft decision whether to prosecute before a national court or to consider a referral of the case, the dismissal or a simplified criminal procedure in accordance with Articles 34, 39 or 40);
- Article 36 (prosecution before national courts).



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European Delegated Prosecutors (EDPs)

European Delegated Prosecutors

Active number of
 European Delegated
 Prosecutors:



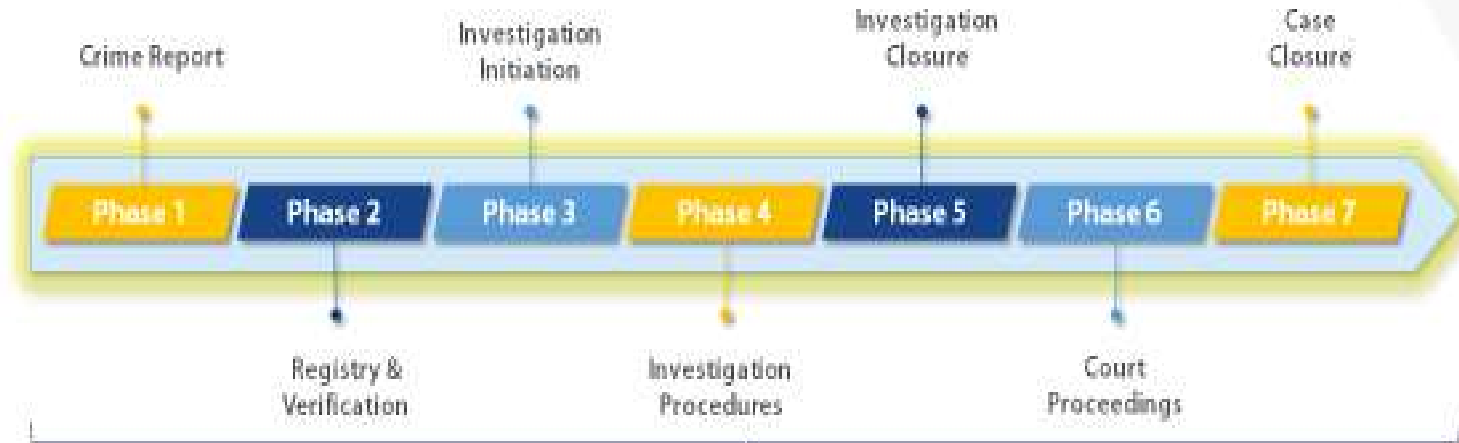


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OPERATIONS

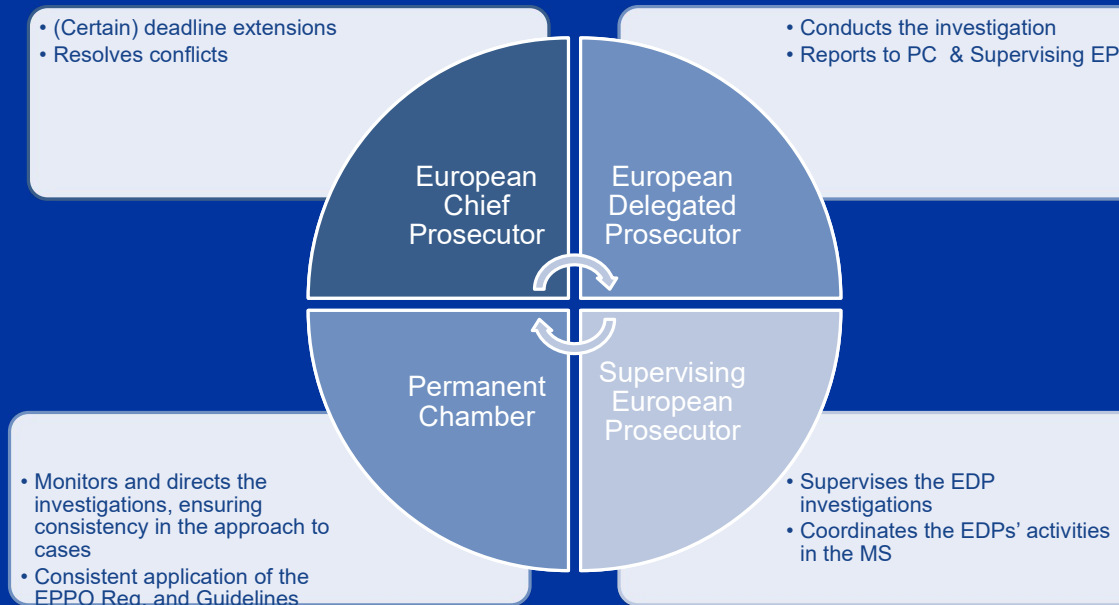
How EPPO operates



- 7 phases
- Different roles involved (EDP, PC, supervising EP, ECP, EPPO staff)
- Cycles of checks & balances operated by different judicial authorities



How EPPO operates



Investigations: How it works

1



Information comes to the EPPO:

- From private parties via Report a Crime web form
- From national authorities or IBOAs

2



- Verification and registration in digital Case Management System and assigned to a European Delegated Prosecutor.

3



If opened, EDP investigates from start to finish

- Supported by EPPO financial investigators and case analysts
- Supported by national police, customs, tax services...
- Monitored by a **Permanent Chamber in Luxembourg**

4



- Case is tried before the national courts.
- (or simplified procedures, or dismissals)

Investigations: powers and limits

- **Opening an investigation – principle of legality**
- **Investigative measures:**
 - Available under national criminal procedural law
 - Common set of investigative measures
- **Procedural rights:**
 - EU Charter of fundamental rights
 - National procedural law / EU procedural rights Directives
- **Cross-border investigations**
 - In participating Member States – *Art. 31 Assisting Measures*
 - Elsewhere – judicial cooperation instruments.



How citizens can report to EPPO

1



Private parties report through the EPPO website

2



Through the dedicated 'Report a crime' form

3



The report can be submitted
in 24 different languages

4





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THANK YOU