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The Cultural and Creative Cities Monitor. 2019 Edition

This second edition of the Cultural and Creative Cities Monitor shows how well 190 cities in 30 European countries perform on a range of measures describing the ‘Cultural Vibrancy’, the ‘Creative Economy’ and the ‘Enabling Environment’ of a city. In 2018, Madrid, Geneva and Győr used the Monitor to pursue different objectives, such as analysing investment needs and re-designing creative industries’ strategies. A paper was also published in a top-level journal in the field of urban studies (Cities) to offer policy insights to the scholarly community. As one of the 65 actions of the European Framework for Action on Cultural Heritage, the Monitor wants to support the European Commission’s efforts to put culture at the heart of its policy agenda through evidence and success stories in cities.
Significant powers

In addition to investigation measures already available to prosecutors under national law in similar national cases, the handling EDP can order or request other measures, such as the freezing of the proceeds of crime or the interception of electronic communications. These measures can be ordered in cases involving offences punishable by a maximum penalty of at least four years of imprisonment.

The surrender of a person requested by an EDP of another Member State will be governed by ordinary European Arrest Warrant procedures.

Horizontal relationships

Under specific circumstances, a case can be reallocated to another EDP from the same Member State. In exceptional cases, the supervising European Prosecutor may conduct the investigation personally in his/her Member State of origin.

Powers of the Permanent Chamber

The Permanent Chambers monitor and direct the investigations and prosecutions conducted by the EDPs and have to that end a number of decision making powers. For example, once an investigation is completed, the competent Permanent Chamber will decide, based on a proposal by the EDP, whether to prosecute the case before a national court, to dismiss it or otherwise dispose of the case, such as a simplified prosecution procedure under national law (e.g. plea bargaining).

A case can be dismissed by the Permanent Chamber, following a proposal by the handling EDP, when prosecution becomes impossible due to a lack of evidence, statute of limitation, ne bis in idem, amnesty or immunity, etc. This is without prejudice to further investigations on the basis of new facts not known to the EPPO at the time of the decision to dismiss the case.

Cases brought to trial

Once brought to trial before the competent national court, the case will be dealt with by the EDP, following the applicable national laws and in line with the EPPO Regulation.

National law will also apply in Member States that have a system of simplified procedures (such as plea bargain) in place.

SAFEGUARDING CITIZENS

In the interest of all citizens, the EPPO Regulation includes several safeguards in relation to suspected persons, witnesses and victims and, for the sake of ensuring legality and compliance with EU law, the possibility of judicial review of its investigations.

The EPPO must respect the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union (CFREU) as well as safeguards under existing EU law, such as the right of access to a lawyer and the right to remain silent. Moreover, suspects and accused involved in EPPO proceedings have all the procedural rights available to them under national law.

Judicial review

The EPPO’s procedural acts will be subject to judicial review before the national courts of the Member State where the EPPO’s activity is carried out.

The Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) will also have jurisdiction to give preliminary rulings concerning questions of validity of the EPPO’s procedural acts, interpretation of the EPPO Regulation and possible conflicts of competence with national authorities.

Partners

The EPPO is a new body in the fight against fraud: Eurojust, OLAF and Europol will maintain their current roles in protecting the Union’s budget and cooperate closely with the EPPO. The EPPO will also work with Member States that are not part of it.
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Children

Children are in a particular vulnerable situation and need special attention. For Eurodac purposes, only the collection of fingerprints of children who are 14 years old or older is legal. Children have the same rights as adults over their personal data. Children under 18 years of age have the right to be informed in a child-friendly manner. You should:

→ Smile, be friendly, polite, empathic and attentive.
→ Adjust the approach and language to the children’s age.
→ Speak clearly enough that children can hear you properly.
→ Use visual aids such as videos or child-friendly leaflets.
→ Check that children have understood the information you gave.
→ Have the parent, the guardian and/or a person of trust accompanying the child.

Inability and refusal to give fingerprints

Asylum applicants and migrants with physical impairments may not be able to provide their fingerprints. Others could refuse to provide them. In case of non-compliance to provide fingerprints, repeated provision of information and effective counselling can reduce the risk to resort to coercive measures. In this context, see: FRA Fundamental rights implications of the obligation to provide fingerprints for Eurodac.

Sources

― Regulation (EU) No 603/2013 of 26 June 2013 on establishment of Eurodac (recast) OJ 2013 L 180/1 (Eurodac Regulation).
― Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC OJ 2016 L 119/71 (General Data Protection Regulation).
― Commission Implementing Regulation No. 118/2014 of 30 January 2014 amending Regulation No 1560/2003 laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EC) No 343/2003 establishing the criteria and mechanisms for determining the Member State responsible for examining an asylum application lodged in one of the Member States by a third-country national, OJ 2014 L 39/1, Annexes X to XII. (Commission Information Leaflets on Eurodac)
― FRA (2015), Fundamental rights implications of the obligation to provide fingerprints for Eurodac.
― Commission Staff Working Document on Implementation of the Eurodac Regulation as regards the obligation to take fingerprints, SWD(2015) 150 final, Brussels, 27.5.2015.
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Statistics Explained https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained is a wiki-based system that presents statistical topics in an easy-to-understand way. Together, the articles make up an encyclopaedia of European statistics.

Eurostat releases a range of publications, all of which are available free of charge on its website in PDF format. Recently, Eurostat published ‘Ageing Europe — looking at the lives of older people in the EU — 2019 edition’. This ‘Flagship publication’ provides a broad range of statistics that describe the everyday lives of the European Union’s (EU) older generations.

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