



ACTIVITY OF THE EUROPEAN DELEGATED PROSECUTORS



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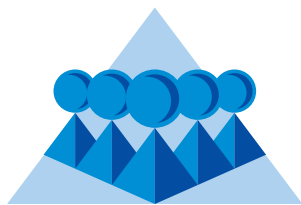
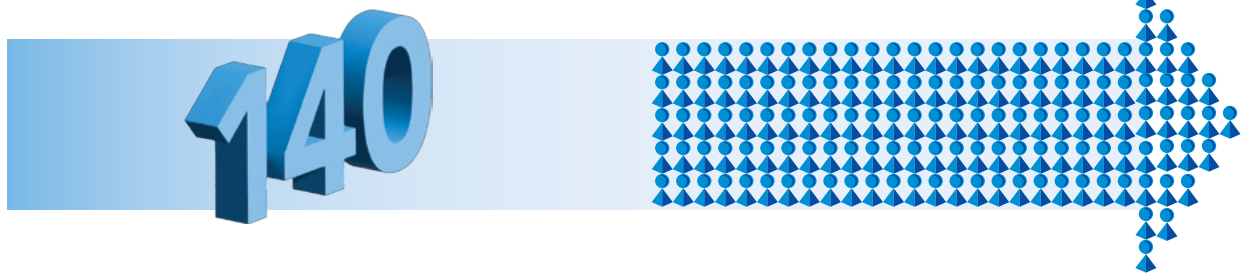
The European Delegated Prosecutors form the front line of the EPPO, working on the decentralised level in 22 different EU Member States. It is their key responsibility to investigate, prosecute and bring to judgment crimes affecting the financial interests of the EU – including taking timely and legally correct decisions, fulfilling the reporting obligation to the Permanent Chambers and cooperating with other European Delegated Prosecutors in cross-border cases. Additionally, they are responsible for the establishment of contacts and cooperation with national law enforcement agencies, controlling agencies and other relevant partners, and for promoting and introducing the work of the EPPO at the national level.

The offices of the European Delegated Prosecutors are located in 42 cities in the 22 Member States.

As a rule, the European Delegated Prosecutors have jurisdiction in the whole territory of their respective Member State. While they carry out investigations according to the national rules of criminal procedure, they operate with complete independence from their national authorities.

On 31 December 2023, there were **140 European Delegated Prosecutors** in active employment.

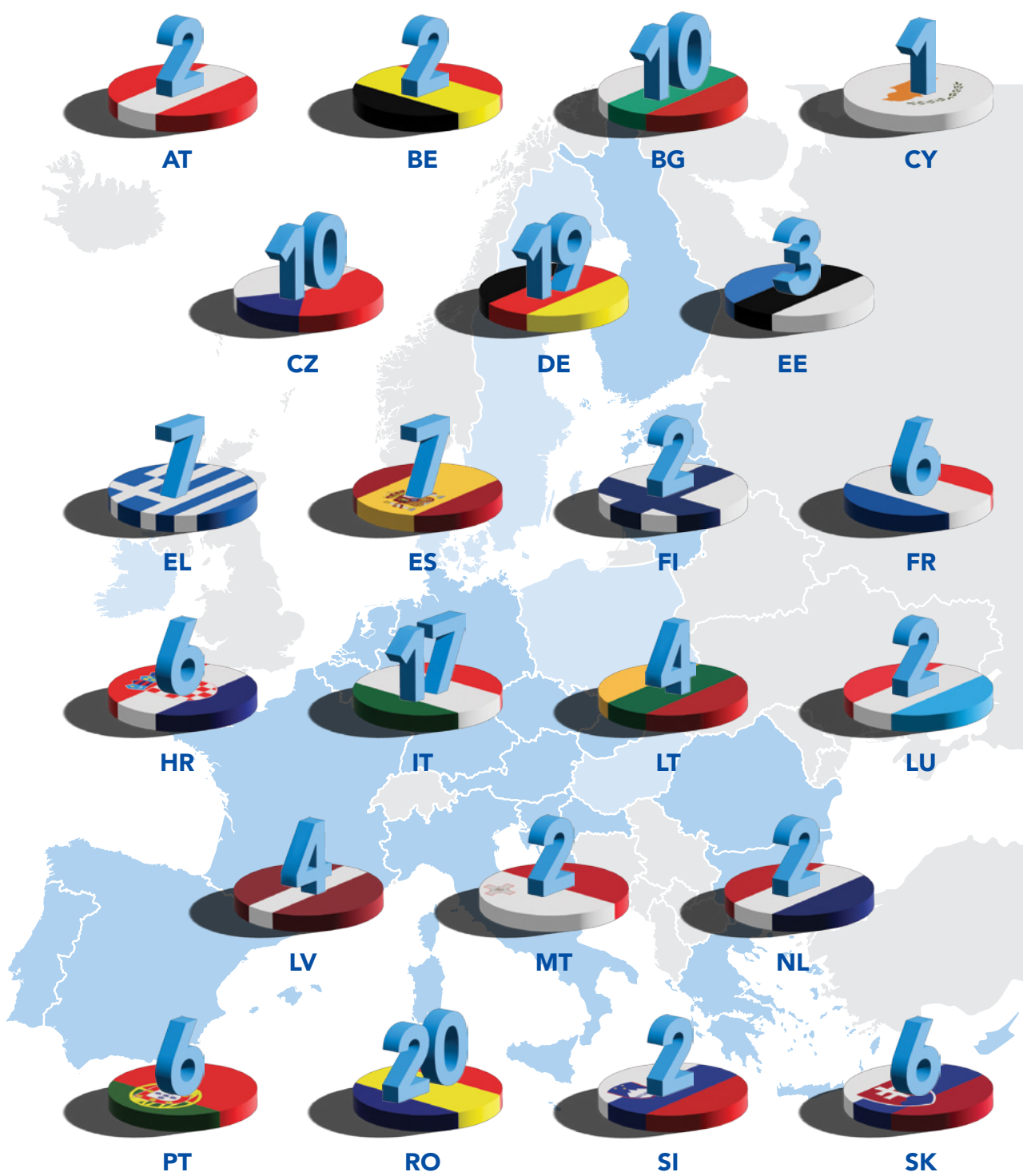
During the reporting period, 35 European Delegated Prosecutors were appointed, three resigned and five were dismissed by the College to retire or take up new positions – including two, upon their respective appointments to the position of European Prosecutor.



THE EUROPEAN DELEGATED PROSECUTORS' ASSOCIATION

In order to facilitate better cooperation between the Central Office and the decentralised level of the EPPO in the participating Member States, the European Delegated Prosecutors' Association was formed in December 2022.

In 2023, the association was formally registered. Throughout the year, it held regular meetings with the European Chief Prosecutor and Deputy European Chief Prosecutors, one meeting with the College of the EPPO and frequently liaised with the HR unit. It also elected a new board, following the conclusion of the mandate of the provisional board set up upon the founding of the association. Moreover, two permanent commissions were created – one dedicated to working conditions, and the other, to legal affairs – with a view to providing reasoned proposals that might contribute to improving the overall cohesion of the EPPO.



Number of European Delegated Prosecutors (Active)

TRAINING AND WORKSHOPS

In 2023, the EPPO continued its efforts to strengthen the professional development and spirit of belonging of the European Delegated Prosecutors who work in the 22 different Member States.

Five workshops were organised at the Central Office on different topics:

- Investigations involving EU staff and EU elected officials protected by immunities and privileges;**
- Cooperation with the Permanent Chambers;**
- Non-VAT revenue fraud and the EPPO’s role in investigating customs fraud and other associated criminal offence typologies;**
- Asset recovery, with an accrued anti-money laundering perspective;**
- An ‘All-EDP Forum’.**



This last event, held in December, gathered all active European Delegated Prosecutors for an overview of the year’s achievements, and a discussion on future challenges and plans for 2024. All workshops also facilitated cooperation on cross-border cases, based on the complex mechanism of Article 31 of the EPPO Regulation.

In addition to the workshops, 15 professional training courses were organised, coordinated and delivered by the consortium of the Academy of European Law and European Judicial Training Network (ERA–EJTN), which included the following topics:

- Admissibility of evidence gathered in EPPO cases;**
- EU funding;**
- Forensic accounting;**
- Financial investigations;**
- The EPPO and non-EU countries;**
- English legal terminology;**
- Analytical tools.**