



# DECISION OF THE COLLEGE OF THE EUROPEAN PUBLIC PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE OF 9 SEPTEMBER 2025

# laying down rules on the secondment of national experts to the European Public Prosecutor's Office ('EPPO')

The College of the European Public Prosecutor's Office ('the EPPO'),

Having regard to Council Regulation (EU) 2017 /1939 of 12 October 2017 implementing enhanced cooperation on the establishment of the European Public Prosecutor's Office ('EPPO'), hereinafter referred to as 'EPPO Regulation', and in particular Article 98,

Having regard to the Staff Regulations of Officials of the European Union ('Staff Regulations') and the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants of the European Union ('CEOS')<sup>2</sup>,

Having regard to the Internal Rules of Procedure of the EPPO,<sup>3</sup>

Having regard to the Commission decision of 12 November 2008 laying down rules on the secondment to the Commission of national experts and national experts in professional training (hereinafter referred to as the "Commission decision"),

On a proposal by the European Chief Prosecutor drawn up by the Administrative Director,

#### Whereas:

(1) Seconded national experts (hereinafter referred to as "SNE"s) should allow the EPPO to benefit from the high level of professional knowledge and experience of those experts, particularly where such expertise is not readily available.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> J L 283, 31.10.2017, p. 1–71, ELI: <a href="http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2017/1939/oj">http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2017/1939/oj</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Regulation No 31 (EEC), 11 (EAEC), laying down the Staff Regulations of Officials and the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants of the European Economic Community and the European Atomic Energy Community (OJ P 045 14.6.1962, p. 1385), and any subsequent amendment thereto. ELI: <a href="http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/1962/31(1)/2025-04-01">http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/1962/31(1)/2025-04-01</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Decision 003/2020 of the College of the EPPO, amended and supplemented by Decision 085/2021 of 11 August 2021, Decision 026/2022 of 29 June 2022 and Decision 010/2024 of 7 February 2024 of the College of the EPPO.





- (2) It is highly desirable to foster the exchange of professional experience and knowledge of common areas of interest by temporarily assigning experts from Member States to the EPPO.
- (3) To ensure that the EPPO's independence is not compromised by private interests, SNEs should come from a national prosecution service or judiciary, a national, regional or local public administration or an inter-governmental organisation (IGO). The secondment of an SNE by any other employer may be authorised on a case-by-case basis, once it has been ascertained that the SNE's employer is part of the public sector, is an independent university or research organisation, or that there is no conflict of interest.
- (4) To avoid any conflict of interest, the rights and obligations of SNEs, as set out in this Decision, should ensure that they carry out their duties in the interest of the EPPO.
- (5) This Decision should set out all the conditions of employment of SNEs. In the case of working conditions and the granting of subsistence allowances, while preserving their specific features, it is desirable to bring them as much as possible into line with the Staff Regulations and the CEOS, but without incorporating SNEs into these categories.
- (6) To enable the EPPO to continue to attract such expertise from the Member States, it is considered desirable to cover the school fees of the European School of Luxembourg (hereinafter referred to as 'ESL').

Has adopted this decision:

#### Title I – General provisions

#### **Article 1 - Scope**

- 1. This Decision is applicable to national experts seconded to the EPPO ("SNE"s). It does not apply to officials of the European Union institutions seconded to the EPPO, as provided for in Article 37 of the Staff Regulations.
- 2. The EPPO may make use of SNEs who are:
  - a) employed by a national, regional or local public administration. For the purposes of this Decision, the public administration means all state administrative services, at central, federal and regional level, comprising ministries, government and parliament services, the courts, central banks, and the administrative services of local authorities, as well as the decentralised administrative services of the State and of such authorities.
  - b) employed by an IGO, with the exception of Union bodies within the meaning of Article 1a(2) of the Staff Regulations, seconded to the EPPO in cases where a transfer of specific knowledge is required.
- 3. Notwithstanding paragraph 2, the EPPO may, on a case-by-case basis, authorise the secondment of an SNE from an employer other than a Member State public administration or





an IGO if the interests of the EPPO warrant bringing in specific expertise, provided that the SNE's employer:

- a) is an independent university or research organisation which does not set out to make profits for redistribution; or
- b) is part of the public sector<sup>4</sup>.
- 4. The experts covered by this Decision shall remain in the service of the employer throughout the period of secondment. The SNE's employer shall thus undertake to continue to pay the SNE's salary, to maintain their administrative status throughout the period of secondment and to inform the EPPO of any change in this regard. The SNE's employer shall also continue to be responsible for all social rights, particularly social security and pension. The termination of or change in the SNE's administrative status may lead to the termination of the secondment by the EPPO, without notice, in accordance with Article 12.
- 5. The SNEs shall be recruited on as wide a geographical basis as possible from among the nationals of the Member States.

#### Article 2 - Cost free SNEs

- 1. For the purposes of this Decision, "cost-free SNEs" are SNEs to whom the EPPO does not pay the subsistence allowances and travel expenses provided for in Articles 18 and 19 of this Decision, respectively.
- 2. The European Chief Prosecutor may authorise the secondment of cost-free SNEs on a case-by-case basis, taking into consideration their place of origin and place of employment, their organisational assignment within the EPPO and the work to be carried out.

### **Article 3 – General principles**

1. Decisions on secondments to the EPPO and any decisions in implementation of these rules shall be taken by the European Chief Prosecutor.

2. Pursuant to Article 98(1) of the EPPO Regulation, all SNEs to the EPPO shall be subject to the authority of the European Chief Prosecutor in the exercise of tasks related to the functions of the EPPO.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> For the purpose of this Decision, an organisation is part of the public sector where it meets all of the following criteria: I) it must be attached to a public administration, as defined in paragraph 1, and it must have been created by legislation or regulation; II) its resources must come primarily from public funding; and III) any activities in which it competes against other private or public entities on the market must represent less than half of its activities.





- 3. The European Chief Prosecutor shall, after consulting the Administrative Director, decide on the assignment of the SNEs within the EPPO. The head of the organisational entity of the EPPO to which an SNE is assigned shall act as the SNE's supervisor.
- 4. The EPPO shall recruit SNEs in accordance with requirements and prior internal budgetary authorisation by the Administrative Director.

#### Title II – Secondment

#### Article 4 - Selection criteria

- 1. To qualify for secondment to the EPPO, a candidate must comply with the following conditions:
  - a. be a national of an EU Member State.
  - b. have a thorough knowledge of the working language of the EPPO and a satisfactory knowledge of a second European Union language to the extent necessary for the performance of his duties.
  - c. have at least three (3) years' full-time experience of administrative, judicial, legal, scientific, technical, advisory or supervisory functions. The candidate must have worked for his employer on a permanent or contract basis for at least twelve (12) months before secondment. Before secondment, the candidate's employer shall supply the EPPO with a statement of the expert's employment covering the previous twelve (12) months.
- 2. For the selection of SNEs who, under the authority of the European Chief Prosecutor, may be assigned to support operational work of the EPPO, specific selection criteria may be added to the above, including in-depth knowledge of specific judicial and legal systems or of a specific official language of the European Union.

# **Article 5 – Selection procedure**

- 1. SNEs shall be selected according to an open and transparent procedure, the practical details of which shall be published in a public call for expression of interest on the EPPO's website. Applications shall be forwarded by the competent authorities of the Member States. The rules for the selection of temporary staff, provided for in the EPPO Implementing Rules on the use and engagement of temporary staff,<sup>5</sup> shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.
- 2. The secondment shall be effected by written agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the European Chief Prosecutor and the competent authorities of the Member State concerned. The exchange of letters shall indicate the initial period of secondment, the place

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Decision 110/2021 of the College of the EPPO of 25 October 2021 laying down general implementing provisions on the procedure governing the engagement and use of Temporary Staff under Article 2(f) of the CEOS.





of origin and the place of secondment, the area of assignment where the national expert will be seconded, the duties and responsibilities in line with the call for expression of interest, and the subsistence allowances and expenses regime. A copy of the rules applicable to SNEs on secondment to the EPPO shall be attached to the exchange of letters.

#### **Article 6 – Period of secondment**

- 1. The initial period of secondment may not be less than three (3) months or more than three (3) years.
- 2. Where its interests so warrant, the EPPO may authorise one or more extensions of the secondment, up to a maximum total period of secondment of six (6) years.
- 3. An SNE who has previously been seconded to the EPPO may be seconded again if they continue to meet the conditions for secondment provided for in Article 1 of this decision. The provisions of Article 5(2) of this decision shall apply accordingly.
- 4. Unless another commencement date is required in the interests of the service, SNEs shall take up duties on the first (1) or sixteenth (16) day of the month.

## Article 7 - Place of origin

- 1. For the purposes of this Decision, "place of origin" means the place where the SNE actually performed their duties for their employer prior to the secondment, irrespective of where the employer is geographically based or has established its primary office.
- 2. The place of origin shall be established in writing at the start of the SNE's secondment and shall remain as established throughout the duration of the secondment and any subsequent extensions.
- 3. If, six (6) months before secondment to the EPPO as an SNE, an expert already has their main residence in a place other than that in which the employer is located, the place of origin shall be deemed to be whichever of the places is closer to the place of secondment.

#### **Article 8 – Place of secondment**

- 1. The place of secondment shall be the place where the EPPO has its seat.
- 2. The SNE shall reside at the place of secondment or at no greater distance therefrom as is compatible with the proper performance of their activities.





3. In special circumstances and in the interest of the service, the EPPO may decide to second an SNE to another specified location where the EPPO is represented.

#### **Article 9 – Tasks**

- 1. SNEs shall assist the European Prosecutors, the European Delegated Prosecutors and the EPPO's staff, performing tasks assigned to them. The tasks assigned to an SNE may include, inter alia, providing support to casework, facilitating information exchange, analysis, contributions to strategic projects and reports, project management and any other specialised, technical or administrative assistance to the organisational entity to which the SNE is assigned. SNEs may not perform middle<sup>6</sup> or senior management duties nor deputise for their immediate superior.
- 2. The specific tasks and duties of an SNE shall be defined by the EPPO in the call for expression of interest and included in the exchange of letters referred to in Article 5(2).
- 3. An SNE shall take part in missions or external meetings on behalf of the EPPO only as part of a delegation led by the European Chief Prosecutor, the Administrative Director, a European Prosecutor, a European Delegated Prosecutor or an EPPO staff member, or alone when acting on a specific mandate granted by his/her superior, after having ensured that there is no potential conflict of interest. In such cases the SNE shall receive clear written instructions from the supervisor on the position to be adopted during the mission or meeting in question. Under no circumstances may a SNE on their own represent the EPPO with a view to entering into commitments, whether financial or otherwise, or negotiating on its behalf. An SNE may, however, represent the EPPO in legal proceedings as co-agent with an EPPO staff member.
- 4. The EPPO, the SNE's employer and the SNE shall make every effort to avoid any conflict of interest or appearance of such a conflict in relation to the SNE's duties during secondment. To that end, the EPPO shall, in good time, inform the SNE and the employer of the intended duties and shall ask each of them to confirm in writing that they know of no reason why the SNE should not be assigned to those duties. In particular, the SNE shall be asked to declare any potential conflict between their family circumstances (in particular the professional activities of close family members or any of their own important financial interest or those of close family members) and the proposed duties while on secondment. The employer and the SNE shall undertake to notify the EPPO of any change of circumstances during the secondment which could give rise to such conflict. The Human Resources Unit of the EPPO shall keep a copy of all such exchanges of correspondence in the SNE's personal file.

<sup>6</sup>Within the meaning of 'middle management' referred to in the Decision 113/2021 of the College of the EPPO of 25 October 2021 on middle management staff.





- 5. Where the EPPO considers that the nature of the tasks entrusted to the SNE requires particular security precautions, security clearance shall be obtained in accordance with the EPPO relevant rules.
- 6. An SNE whose duties require access to EUCI classified CONFIDENTIEL EU/EU CONFIDENTIAL or above, or to sensitive case-related information, shall be security cleared to the relevant level or duly authorised by virtue of their functions in accordance with the EPPO Security Rules
- 7. The European Chief Prosecutor may grant to the SNE assigned to support the operational work of the EPPO access to operational data, on a need-to-know basis, to the extent necessary for that SNE to perform his duties.

# Article 10 - Rights and obligations

- 1. During the period of secondment:
  - a) the SNE shall carry out their duties objectively and impartially, with loyalty to the EPPO, and shall act solely in its interest. They shall refrain from any action or behaviour which might reflect adversely upon their position or the EPPO;
  - b) the SNE shall refrain from any form of psychological or sexual harassment;<sup>7</sup>
  - the SNE has the right to freedom of expression, with due regard for the principles of loyalty and impartiality. Without prejudice to letter (i) below, the SNE who intends to publish or causes to be published, whether alone, or with others, any matter dealing with the work of the EPPO shall inform the European Chief Prosecutor in advance. Where the European Chief Prosecutor is able to demonstrate that the matter is liable seriously to prejudice the legitimate interests of the EPPO, the European Chief Prosecutor shall inform the SNE of its decision in writing within thirty (30) working days of receipt of the information. If no such decision is notified within the specified period, the European Chief Prosecutor shall be deemed to have had no objections;
  - d) all rights in any work done by an SNE in the performance of his duties shall be the property of the EPPO;
  - e) any SNE who, in the performance of their duties, is called upon to take a decision on the handling or outcome of a matter in which they have, directly or indirectly, a personal interest that could impair their independence, shall inform their supervisor, who shall take any appropriate measure and may, in particular, release the SNE from responsibility in this matter;
  - f) The SNE shall declare any gainful activity performed in a professional capacity by their spouse, as defined by the Staff Regulations<sup>8</sup>;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Article 12a of the Staff Regulations and the provisions implementing this Article shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Non-marital partnerships shall be treated as spousal relationships provided that all the conditions listed in Article 1(2)(c) of Annex VII to the Staff Regulations are fulfilled.





- g) an SNE shall assist and tender advice to the supervisor to whom they are assigned and shall be responsible to their supervisor for the performance of the duties entrusted to them:
- h) an SNE shall, in the exercise of his duties, neither accept instructions from nor undertake any activities for his employer or national government.
- i) an SNE wishing to engage in an outside activity, whether paid or unpaid, or to carry out any assignment outside the EPPO, including undertaking any activity for the employer, shall be subject to the EPPO's rules on prior authorisation for outside activities for temporary staff, which shall apply *mutatis mutandis*<sup>9</sup>;
- j) Both during and after the period of secondment, an SNE shall exercise the greatest discretion with regard to all facts and information of which he becomes aware in the course of or in connection with the performance of his duties. He shall not in any form whatsoever disclose to any unauthorised person any document or information not already lawfully made public, nor shall he use such document or information for personal gain. The duty of confidentiality also applies to any participation in legal proceedings, in which an SNE may not, without permission from the European Chief Prosecutor, disclose information of which they have knowledge by reason of their duties;
- k) SNEs shall be subject to the security rules in force at the EPPO.
- 2. Failure to comply with the provisions of paragraphs 1 or of Article 9 during the period of secondment shall entitle the EPPO to terminate the secondment of an SNE under the terms of Article 12(2), letter d), of this Decision.
- 3. At the end of the secondment and for a period of three (3) years following the period of secondment, an SNE shall continue to be bound by the obligation to act with integrity and discretion as regards the exercise of new duties assigned to him and in accepting certain posts and benefits. To that end, the SNE shall immediately inform the EPPO of any duties or tasks likely to give rise to a conflict of interest in relation to the tasks carried out by the SNE during the period of secondment.

#### **Article 11 – Suspension of secondment**

- 1. At the written request of the SNE, their supervisor or their employer, and with the latter's agreement, the EPPO may authorise suspensions of periods of secondment and specify the terms applicable. The minimum duration of the suspension of secondment shall be five (5) working days.
- 2. During such suspensions:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Commission Decision C(2018) 4048 29.6.2018 on outside activities and assignments and on occupational activities after leaving the Service.





- a) The subsistence allowances referred to in Article 18 shall not be payable.
- b) the travel expenses referred to in Article 19 shall be payable only if the suspension is at the EPPO's request.
- 3. The period of suspension shall not be counted in the period of secondment as defined in Article 6.

# **Article 12 – Termination of secondment**

- 1. Subject to paragraph 2, the secondment may be terminated at the request of the EPPO or of the SNE's employer, with a period of three (3) months' notice, or at the SNE's request, subject to the same period of notice and with the agreement of the EPPO and the SNE's employer.
- 2. In exceptional circumstances the secondment may be terminated:
  - a) by the SNE's employer if the employer's essential interests so require;
  - b) without notice by the EPPO and the employer acting jointly on request by the SNE to both parties, if the SNE's personal or professional interests so require;
  - c) without notice by the EPPO in the event of the termination of, or change in, the SNE's administrative status with his/her employer;
  - d) without notice by the EPPO in the event of a failure by the SNE or their employer to respect the obligations under this Decision.
- 3. In the event of termination of the secondment under paragraph 2, letter d), the SNE shall first be given an opportunity to be heard and submit their defence. The EPPO shall immediately inform the SNE and his employer when the decision to terminate the secondment is adopted by the European Chief Prosecutor.

# Title III – Working conditions

#### **Article 13 – Social security**

- 1. Before the period of secondment begins, the SNE's employer shall certify to the EPPO that the SNE will remain, throughout the period of secondment, subject to the social security legislation applicable to the employer and will assume responsibility for expenses incurred abroad.
- 2. During the period of secondment, SNEs shall be covered by the EPPO against the risk of accident in the EPPO's premises.
- 3. The EPPO will provide complementary insurance in the context of a mission in which the SNE is participating under the terms of Articles 9(7) and 21, or when, as a result of specific risks at the place of secondment, additional or specific insurance is required.





## **Article 14 – Working time**

- 1. The working hours for SNEs shall be the same as those determined in the rules on working time and hybrid working in force at the EPPO.
- 2. An SNE shall serve on a full-time basis throughout the period of secondment. Following a duly justified request from their supervisor, and subject to compatibility with the interests of the EPPO, the European Chief Prosecutor, after having consulted the Administrative Director, may authorise an SNE to work part-time, after agreement from their employer.
- 3. In case of part-time work, entitlement to allowances and annual leave shall be reduced proportionately.

#### Article 15 – Absence due to sickness or accident

- 1. The rules in force at the EPPO on absence due to sickness or accident shall apply to SNEs.
- 2. Where the period of sick leave exceeds three (3) months, or the period of service performed by the SNE, whichever is longer, the subsistence allowances referred to in Article 18 shall be automatically suspended. Sick leave may not extend beyond the duration of the secondment.
- 3. SNEs who suffer from a work-related injury, which occurs during the secondment, shall continue to receive the allowances in full throughout the period during which they are unfit for work. These allowances shall not, however, be paid beyond the end of the secondment.

#### **Article 16 – Annual and special leave**

- 1. The rules on annual and special leave applicable to temporary staff at the EPPO<sup>10</sup> shall apply to SNEs, except for the provisions relating to grade.
- 2. Leave is subject to prior authorisation by the supervisor to which the SNE is assigned. Any unauthorised absence that is duly established shall be deducted from the annual leave of the SNE concerned. If he or she has used up his annual leave, the allowances shall not be paid.
- 3. Upon a duly justified request from the SNE's employer, additional special leave of two (2) days per period of twelve (12) months to visit the SNE's employer may be granted. Days of annual leave not taken by the end of the period of secondment shall be forfeited.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Commission Decision C(2013) 9051 of 16.12.2013 on leave, and any subsequent amendment thereto.





4. Except in case of sickness or accident, an SNE may not be absent without prior permission from his supervisor.

#### Article 17 - Maternity and paternity leave

- 1. The rules in force at the EPPO on maternity and paternity leave shall apply to SNEs. While on maternity or paternity leave the SNE shall receive the subsistence allowances set out in Article 18.
- 2. Where the national legislation of the SNE's employer grants a longer period of maternity or paternity leave than that granted by the EPPO, the secondment may, at the request of the SNE and after agreement with the employer, be suspended for the period of time exceeding that granted by the EPPO. In that case, a period equivalent to the period of the suspension may be added to the end of the period of secondment if the interests of the EPPO so warrant.
- 3. An SNE may, as an alternative, apply for a suspension of the secondment to cover the whole of the period allowed for maternity or paternity leave, after prior agreement of the employer. In that case, a period equivalent to the period of the suspension may be added to the end of the secondment if the interests of the EPPO so warrant.
- 4. Paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 shall also apply to the cases of adoption.

#### Title IV – Allowances, expenses and payments

#### **Article 18 – Subsistence allowances**

- 1. Without prejudice to Article 2, the allowances and expenses to which an SNE shall be entitled shall be stipulated in the exchange of letters referred to in Article 5(2) between the EPPO and the competent authorities of the Member State concerned.
- 2. Unless otherwise provided in the exchange of letters mentioned in paragraph 1, an SNE shall be entitled, throughout the period of secondment, to a daily subsistence allowance and a monthly subsistence allowance. On the date of entry into force of this Decision:
  - a) the daily subsistence allowance shall be EUR 175,38;
  - b) the monthly subsistence allowance shall be paid in accordance with the following table:

Distance between place of origin and place of secondment (km)	Amount in EUR
0-150	0
> 150	112,73





> 300	200,41
> 500	325,70
> 800	526,12
> 1300	826,77
> 2000	989,64

- 3. These subsistence allowances shall be granted under the same conditions as the expatriation allowance for temporary agents employed by the EPPO.
- 4. Where applicable, these subsistence allowances shall be subject to the weighting factor set by the Council pursuant to Article 64 of the Staff Regulations.
- 5. The adjustments to remuneration adopted by the Council pursuant to Article 65 of the Staff Regulations shall apply automatically to the subsistence allowances in the month following their adoption. The Human Resources Unit shall be responsible for implementing this provision.
- 6. These subsistence allowances are intended to cover SNEs' living expenses in the place of secondment on a flat-rate basis and shall in no circumstances be construed as remuneration paid by the EPPO.
- 7. Before the secondment, the SNE's employer shall certify by letter to the Head of the Human Resources Unit of the EPPO that during the secondment, the employer will maintain the level of remuneration that the SNE was receiving at the time of his secondment.
- 8. The SNE shall inform the Human Resources Unit of the EPPO of any allowance similar to the subsistence allowances paid by the EPPO received by the SNE and paid from other sources. Any such amounts shall be deducted from the subsistence allowances paid by the EPPO. Following a duly justified request from the employer, the EPPO may decide not to make this deduction.
- 9. Subsistence allowances shall be payable for every day of the month, including weekends, periods of mission, annual leave, special leave and holidays granted by EPPO.
- 10. When the SNE starts the secondment, the first seventy-five (75) days of the subsistence allowances to which they are entitled, shall be advanced in the form of a lump sum, and no other allowances shall be paid during the corresponding period. This lump sum shall be paid by the 25th day of the month in which the SNE starts his secondment. If the secondment is ended during the first 75 days, the SNE shall return the amount corresponding to the remainder of that period.
- 11. Subsistence allowances shall be paid no later than the 25th day of each month.





#### **Article 19 – Travel expenses**

- 1. Unless otherwise provided in the exchange of letters referred to in Article 5(2), an SNE, whose place of origin is more than 150 km from the place of secondment, as defined respectively in Article 7 and 8, shall be entitled to reimbursement of the cost of the travel between these two places both at the beginning and end of their secondment:
  - a) for themselves,
  - b) for her/his spouse and dependent children, provided that they live with the SNE during the time of the secondment.
- 2. Travel expenses shall be reimbursed in accordance with Article 7(2) of Annex VII to the Staff Regulations.
- 3. By way of derogation from Paragraph 1, SNEs who prove that they have changed the place at which they will be primarily employed after the end of the secondment shall be entitled to reimbursement of the travel expenses to that place under the conditions laid down in Article 7(1) and (2) of Annex VII to the Staff Regulations and the provisions implementing these Articles. However, the reimbursement may not be more than the amount that would have been paid had the SNE returned to the place of origin.
- 4. The EPPO shall not reimburse any expenses referred to in the preceding paragraphs if they have been met by the SNE's employer or any other body. For this purpose the SNE shall declare any such payments or reimbursements.

#### Article 20 - Payment of ESL schools fees

The EPPO shall cover ESL school fees pertaining to the children of SNEs seconded to the seat of the EPPO for a minimum continuous period of six (6) months. Payment of such fees shall be subject to the availability of funds and approval of the Authorising Officer. Where there are limited funds, eligible SNEs will be treated equitably.

#### **Article 21 – Missions and mission expenses**

- 1. An SNE may be sent on mission subject to Article 9(7).
- 2. Mission expenses shall be reimbursed in accordance with the rules and conditions relating to the payment of mission expenses in force at the EPPO<sup>11</sup>.

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## **Article 22 – Training**

SNEs shall be entitled to attend training courses, where space and budget allow and if the interests of the EPPO warrant it. The reasonable interests of the SNE, having regard in particular to their professional career after the secondment, may also be considered when a decision on permission to attend courses is taken.

#### **Article 23 – Payments**

Payments of allowances and expenses shall be made by the EPPO, in euros, into a bank account opened at the place of secondment.

#### Title V – Final provisions

# **Article 24 – Complaints**

- 1. Without prejudice to the possibilities for instituting proceedings under the conditions laid down by Article 263 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, an SNE may submit a complaint to the European Chief Prosecutor against an individual decision adversely affecting them taken under this Decision, with the exception of decisions that are the direct consequences of decisions taken by their employer.
- 2. The complaint must be lodged within two (2) months. The period shall start to run on the date of notification of the decision to the person concerned, but in no case later than the date on which the latter received such notification. The Administrative Director shall notify the SNE of their reasoned decision within four (4) months from the date on which the complaint was lodged. If at the end of that period no reply to the complaint has been received, this shall be deemed to constitute an implied decision rejecting it.

#### **Article 25 – Cost recovery**

The EPPO shall be entitled to recover any undue payments made to SNEs under these rules. The request for recovery must be made no later than five (5) years from the date on which the sum was paid. Where the Administrative Director is able to establish that the recipient deliberately misled the administration with a view to obtaining the sum concerned, the request for recovery shall not be invalidated even if this period has elapsed.





# Article 26 - Repeal and entry into force

- 1. This Decision repeals and replaces the Decision 102/2021 of the College of the EPPO laying down rules on the secondment to the European Public Prosecutor's Office ('EPPO') of national experts.
- 2. This Decision shall enter into force on the first day of the day following that of its adoption and shall apply to all SNEs at the EPPO.

Done at Luxembourg on 9 September 2025.

On behalf of the College,

Laura Codruța KÖVESI European Chief Prosecutor