

**WORKING ARRANGEMENT
ON COOPERATION
BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN PUBLIC PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE ('EPPO')
AND
THE FEDERAL OFFICE OF JUSTICE OF THE SWISS CONFEDERATION**

Working Arrangement
on cooperation between the European Public Prosecutor's Office ('EPPO')
and the Federal Office of Justice of the Swiss Confederation

The European Public Prosecutor's Office ('EPPO'), hereinafter referred to as "the EPPO", and

the Federal Office of Justice of the Swiss Confederation, hereinafter collectively referred to as "the Participants" or individually as "the Participant",

Having regard the provisions of the Council Regulation (EU) 2017/1939 of 12 October 2017 implementing enhanced cooperation on the establishment of the European Public Prosecutor's Office ('the EPPO'), hereinafter referred to as "the EPPO Regulation", and in particular the Articles 99 and 104 thereof,

Having regard to the provisions of the Swiss Federal Act of 20 March 1981 on International Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters and the Ordinance of 21 December 2022 on Cooperation with the European Public Prosecutor's Office ('the EPPO'),

Considering the will of the Participants to establish a close cooperation with a view of protecting by investigative and prosecutorial means the financial interests of the European Union and of the Swiss Confederation, and to fight corruption, organised crime and other forms of serious crimes,

Considering the desire of the Participants to provide close cooperation to each other in investigations and prosecutions,

Taking into account that the EPPO is an independent body of the European Union (EU) that investigates and prosecutes cases in the participating Member States,

Acknowledging that the European Delegated Prosecutors of the EPPO are at the same time active members of the public prosecution service of their respective Member States and have the same powers with the national prosecutors in their respective Member States,

Considering that, within their respective mandates, the EPPO and the Federal Office of Justice may mutually cooperate in criminal matters on the basis of the applicable legal frameworks,

Acknowledging that, in accordance with Article 99(3) of the EPPO Regulation, this Working Arrangement does neither form the basis for allowing the exchange of personal data nor have legally binding effects on the Union, its Member States or Switzerland,

Taking into account the competence of the Federal Office of Justice and other relevant Swiss authorities and the competence of the EPPO,

Aiming to facilitate cooperation in criminal matters and, especially, exchange of evidence and information between them in order to ensure effective investigation and prosecution, in full respect of human rights,

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

Section I

General provisions

Paragraph 1

Purpose

This Working Arrangement aims at facilitating cooperation between the Participants in investigations and prosecutions relating to criminal offences within their respective competences, with respect to the exchange of evidence, operational and strategic information, and other forms of cooperation, in accordance with their respective legal frameworks, including applicable bilateral and multilateral instruments, and the provisions of this Working Arrangement.

Paragraph 2

Scope

The Participants intend to cooperate in all areas referred to in this Working Arrangement within the scope of their respective legal frameworks.

Paragraph 3

Non-legally binding nature

This Working Arrangement does not establish any legally binding rights and obligations between the Participants, either directly or indirectly.

Paragraph 4

Definitions

For the purposes of this Working Arrangement:

- a) 'European Prosecutor' is understood as the EPPO post-holder referred to in Articles 16 and 96(1) of the EPPO Regulation;
- b) 'European Delegated Prosecutor' is understood as the EPPO post-holder of the EPPO referred to in Articles 17 and 96(6) of the EPPO Regulation;
- c) 'EPPO staff' is understood as the staff and other persons referred to in Articles 2(4) and Article 98 of the EPPO Regulation;
- d) 'Information' may be understood as non-personal data.
- e) 'Personal data' may be understood as any information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person ('data subject'); an identifiable natural person is one who can be identified, directly or indirectly, in particular by reference to an identifier such as a name, an identification number, location data, an online identifier or to one or more factors specific to the physical, physiological, genetic, mental, economic, cultural or social identity of that natural person.

Paragraph 5

Transfer of personal data

Transfer of personal data between the Participants will not take place under this Working Arrangement, and will be subject to their respective legal frameworks, including relevant international agreements where applicable.

Section II

Operational cooperation

Paragraph 6

Cooperation on gathering evidence or operational information

- (1) The Participants may assist each other in gathering evidence or operational information, in accordance with their applicable legal frameworks.
- (2) The Federal Office of Justice endeavours to cooperate with the EPPO, in accordance with the applicable legal frameworks, in gathering evidence or operational information needed by the EPPO for an investigation or prosecution conducted within its competence. Such cooperation may be provided on the basis of the United Nations Convention against corruption or the United Nations Conventions against transnational organised crime, to which both the Swiss Confederation and the European Union are parties, or, on the basis of reciprocity, in accordance with the Swiss Federal Act of 20 March 1981 on International Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters and the EPPO Regulation.
- (3) The EPPO endeavours to cooperate with the Federal Office of Justice, in accordance with applicable legal frameworks, in providing evidence or operational information in its possession needed by the requesting authority for an investigation or prosecution. Such cooperation may be provided under any applicable international agreements or under a police cooperation mechanism or on the basis of reciprocity.
- (4) In addition to the mutual legal assistance referred to in subparagraphs (2) and (3) of this Paragraph, the Participants acknowledge the possibility to exchange information via the available police cooperation mechanisms.

Paragraph 7

Freezing of assets

The Participants endeavour to facilitate cooperation for freezing of assets under the applicable legal frameworks. To this end, paragraph 6 should apply *mutatis mutandis*.

Paragraph 8

Joint investigation teams

- (1) The Participants may cooperate on setting up joint investigation teams in cases that would fall under the competence of the EPPO, in accordance with applicable legal frameworks.
- (2) For the setting up of a joint investigation team, the Participants may conclude specific agreements.

Paragraph 9

Extradition

The Participants acknowledge that where it is necessary for the EPPO to request the extradition of a person sought, the handling European Delegated Prosecutor may request the competent authority of his/her Member State to issue an extradition request in accordance with the applicable legal frameworks.

Section III

Strategic cooperation and other matters

Paragraph 10

Exchange of strategic and other information

The Participants may exchange any strategic and other non-operational information in areas within their competence, in accordance with their applicable legal frameworks.

Paragraph 11

Secondment of a Liaison officer to the EPPO

- (1) In order to facilitate the application of this Working Arrangement and especially to foster the operational cooperation between the Participants, the Federal Office of Justice may second a liaison officer to the EPPO's headquarters in Luxembourg.

- (2) The EPPO should provide an office, technical equipment and the necessary logistical support for the liaison officer seconded to its headquarters. The Federal Office of Justice should cover all other costs of the secondment.
- (3) The Participants will agree the specific Working Arrangements related to the secondment of the liaison officer through an exchange of letters.

Paragraph 12

Contact Points and channels of communication

1. For purposes of facilitating cooperation under this Working Arrangement, the Federal Office of Justice points of contact are the following:
 - a) For case-specific communications, including requests for mutual legal assistance: Federal Office of Justice, Division for International Legal Assistance, Bundesrain 20, 3003 Bern, Switzerland, and in urgent cases electronically to irh@bj.admin.ch.
 - b) For other communications: Head of the International Treaties Unit at the Federal Office of Justice, e-mail: irh.vertraege@bj.admin.ch.
2. For purposes of facilitating cooperation under this Working Arrangement, the EPPO points of contact are the following:
 - a) For case-specific communications, including requests for mutual legal assistance: Operations Unit, IBOA and Operational Cooperation Team,
11 Avenue John F. Kennedy, L-1855, Luxembourg,
e-mail: eppo-international-cooperation@eppo.europa.eu
 - b) For other communications: Counsellor to the European Chief Prosecutor for international relations, e-mail: eppo-executiveoffice@eppo.europa.eu.
- (3) The Participants may communicate by any means whereby a written record can be produced, including through secured means of electronic communication.
- (4) At operational level, the Participants may cooperate in accordance with the applicable legal frameworks.

Paragraph 13

Meetings and other events

- (1) The Participants may organise high-level meetings between the European Chief Prosecutor and their relevant counterparts in the Swiss Confederation, as well as technical meetings at both operational and administrative levels.
- (2) The Participants may cooperate in organising training sessions on matters of common interest and they may invite each other to seminars, workshops, conferences and other similar activities that are mutually relevant.

Section IV

Final provisions

Paragraph 14

Consultations

The Participants may consult each other regarding any matters that may lead to different interpretations of this Working Arrangement.

Paragraph 15

Expenses

Unless otherwise stipulated in this Working Arrangement, the Participants will bear their own expenses that arise in the course of implementation of this Working Arrangement. This Paragraph will not impact the rules on the bearing of the costs in the course of the execution of a request for mutual legal assistance.

Paragraph 16

Amendments

This Working Arrangement may be amended in writing at any time by mutual consent between the Participants.

Paragraph 17

Termination of the Working Arrangement

- (1) This Working Arrangement may be terminated in writing by either Participant.
- (2) In case of termination, the Participants endeavour to reach agreement on the continued use and storage of the information that has already been communicated between them.

Paragraph 18

Effectiveness

This Working Arrangement comes into effect on the date of its signature.

Done at Luxembourg on 8 October 2025 in two originals in English.

For the EPPO,



Laura Codruța KÖVESI

European Chief Prosecutor

For the Federal Office of Justice,



Laurence FONTANA JUNGO

Vice Director