

# EUROJUST AND ENVIRONMENTAL CRIMES

## ENPE CONFERENCE

On the 23-24 October 2018, Natural History Museum of Crete, Heraklion

Seconded National Expert (District prosecutor) Heidi Nummela

#### OUTLINE OF PRESENTATION

1. What is Eurojust?

- 2. Eurojust's operational support
  - Coordination Meetings
  - Joint Investigation Teams
  - Coordination Centres

3. Eurojust cases



## EUROJUST = THE EUROPEAN UNION'S JUDICIAL COOPERATION UNIT



- Moved to New Premises in July 2017
- In close proximity of Europol 250 metres



#### **EUROJUST'S ORGANISATION**

- College:
  - 28 National Members, 1 from each EU
     Member State
  - experienced prosecutors, judges or police
     officers of equivalent competence
  - supported by Deputies, Assistants or Seconded National Experts
- Administration:
  - Headed by Administrative Director



# EUROJUST'S MISSION (ARTICLE 3 OF THE 'EUROJUST DECISION')

- **Stimulate** and **improve** the **coordination** of **investigations** and **prosecutions** between the competent authorities in the Member States,
- Improve the cooperation between them, in particular by facilitating the execution of international mutual legal assistance (MLA) requests, European Investigation (EIO) Orders and the implementation of extradition requests.

In other words: EUROJUST = FACILITATOR

# EUROJUST COMPETENCES (ARTICLE 4 OF THE 'EUROJUST DECISION')

The offences in respect of which **Europol** is competent to act:

- Organised Crime
- Terrorism
- Drug trafficking
- Trafficking in human beings
- Illegal Immigrant Smuggling
- Trafficking in nuclear and radioactive substances
- Vehicle crime
- Counterfeiting and forgery

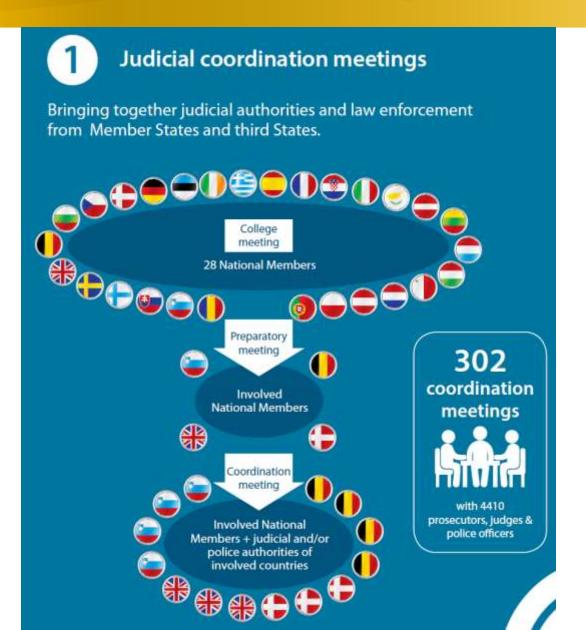


# EUROJUST'S COMPETENCES (ARTICLE 4 OF THE 'EUROJUST DECISION')

- Money laundering
- Computer crime
- Fraud, corruption and financial crime
- Environmental crime
- Participation in a criminal organisation
- Other serious forms of international crime
- Other offences committed together with any of the above



## 1. Coordination meeting





### 2. Joint Investigation Team



#### 3. Coordination centre



in serious cross-border crimes among national authorities during action days.

**Eurojust** coordination centres were held in 2017



Gathering evidence correctly is important for successful future court proceedings

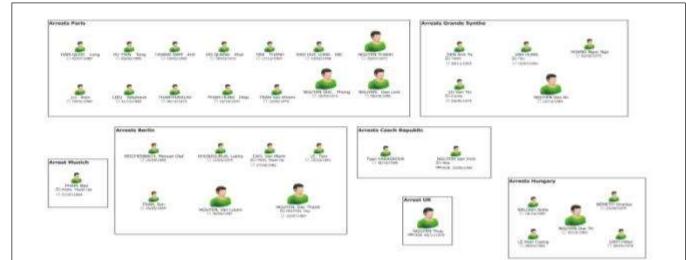


#### Coordination centres



Eurojust's coordination centres facilitate the exchange in real time of information between Eurojust and the countries involved





## Cooperation

Eurojust cooperates i.a with

- EJN
- Europol
- OLAF

Contact Points worldwide

#### **EUROJUST CASES**

- illegal hunting and trafficking assist with MLA
- illegal import of environmental dangerous waste transfer of proceedings
- unlawful handling of caviar (Huso huso) legislation in the perpetrator's home country
- illicit trafficking of pestisides housesearches in several countries
- plundering case inquiry for similar cases in other MS
- shipment of waste paper illegally mixed with household waste – execution timeframe of the LoR unclear
- selling large quantities of Baltic salmon request for the interview in another country
- trafficking in endangered species level II meeting
- environmental crime request to question a witness via videoconference



#### **EUROJUST CASES**

#### 8 March 2017 (Press Release)

- Smuggling of over 10 tonnes of eels from the European Union to China
- Profit estimated at EUR 10 million
- 17 arrests, approximately 2 tonnes of eels worth 2 million were sized, along with data storage services, documents luxury cars and appr. 1 million cash
- Europol and Eurojust involved

#### **EUROJUST CASES**

- JIT Birdie
- JIT between Finland and Sweden
- Suspects in both countries, also in UK
- Purpose: to investigate a series of illegal activities regarding gathering, exporting and or receiving wild bird eggs and dead birds
- Eurojust organised and financed the meetings



# STATISTICS: CASES REGISTERED ON ENVIRONMENTAL CRIME 1 JAN 2012 - 26 SEPTEMBER 2018

Operations Department Data Management Office



#### REGISTERED ENVIRONMENTAL CRIME CASES



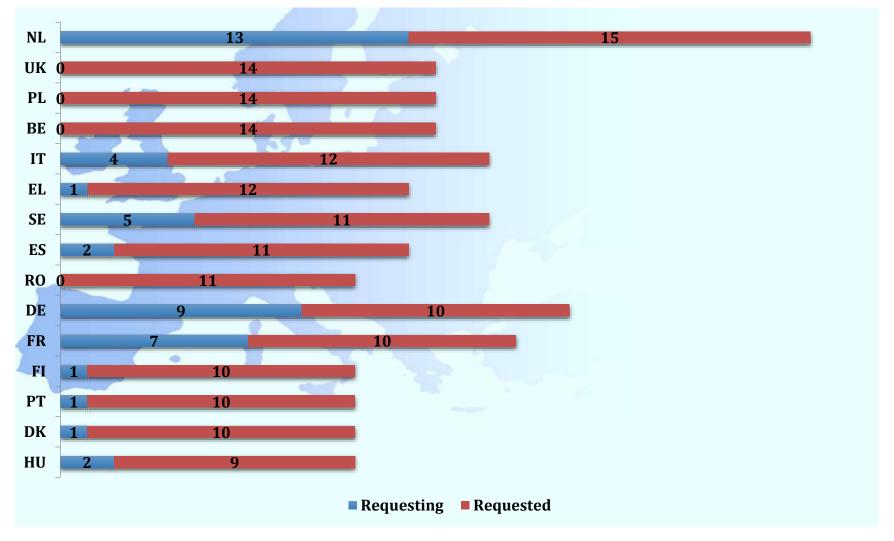


## ENVIRONMENTAL CRIME CASES JANUARY 2012- SEPTEMBER 2018

- 55 cases, ~0,4% of the casework at Eurojust (14
   778 registered cases in total)
- 22 multilateral and 33 bilateral cases
- 8 coordination meetings, 2 coordination centres
- 4 JITs in total, 3 ongoing



## MOST FREQUENTLY REQUESTING AND REQUESTED MEMBER STATES



## THIRD STATES REQUESTED FOR JUDICIAL COOPERATION IN ENVIRONMENTAL CASES





#### CONTACT DETAILS

#### Thank you for your attention



#### Heidi Nummela

Seconded National Expert for Finland at Eurojust

HNummela@eurojust.europa.eu

www.eurojust.europa.eu