

EULAW: EUropean LAWyers training on EPPO

January 2021 – January 2023

The European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO) is a new European Union body in charge of conducting criminal investigations and prosecutions to protect the financial interests of the EU. Its establishment is a significant step in strengthening the protection of the EU budget by means of criminal law and it will impact the work of national criminal justice actors. Lawyers need to receive specific training to build the skills necessary to interact with the EPPO.

Objectives

The project will pursue the following objectives:

- Improve lawyers' knowledge of the EPPO.
- Increase trainers' ability to provide guidance on the provisions of the EPPO Regulation.
- Enhance lawyers' awareness of the role of the EPPO in their daily practice.
- Create easy-to-use training materials to give lawyers the tools to deal with cases impacted by the EPPO.
- Promote mutual learning and constructive dialogue between lawyers from different legal backgrounds.

Activities

Several national and transnational training events will be addressed to defence lawyers from five Member States (Italy, Luxembourg, Bulgaria, Croatia, Spain):

- Two transnational Training of Trainers events: to train lawyers in the main aspects of the EPPO and prepare them as future trainers in their own countries.
- National seminars and transnational workshops: to improve knowledge of the EPPO and promote networking activities between lawyers.
- Handbook: a practice-oriented guide for defense lawyers for their daily practice.
- Final conference in Rome : defense lawyers, prosecutors, and judges will discuss the main challenges arising from the EPPO Regulation.

Expected results

- Improve lawyers' ability to provide guidance and support on the provisions of the EPPO Regulation.
- Enable lawyers to act as multipliers by passing their knowledge to their peers.
- Strengthen defence lawyers' ability to work with the EPPO by addressing the challenging interaction between the EPPO Regulation and national judicial systems in the context of cross-border cases but also national cases affected by EU law.
- Raise awareness among lawyers that they are acting in a European context.

Partnership

The partnership is coordinated by Fondazione Lelio e Lisli Basso which has significant experience in both research and training. For the project, it has brought together some of the major European Universities and training providers who are pioneers on the implications of the establishment of the EPPO and leaders in the field of criminal justice. The partnership combines the academic researchers'

theoretical knowledge of the EPPO and of the rights of defence in criminal proceedings with the experience of Bar Associations in training lawyers.

It is comprised of:

- Fondazione Lelio e Lisli Basso ONLUS (Italy)
- University of Luxembourg (Luxembourg)
- International Legal Advice Center – ILAC (Bulgaria)
- University of Zagreb (Croatia)
- Unione Camere Penali Italiane – UCPI (Italy)
- Consejo General de la Abogacía Española - CGAE (Spain).



Co-funded by the Justice Programme
(2014-2020) of the European Union

