




Updated 12 September 2018

### Competent authorities and languages accepted for the European Investigation Order in criminal matters

- as notified by the Member States which have transposed the Directive 2014/41/EU or on the grounds of the information provided by the EJM Tool Correspondents or National Correspondents

 <b>AUSTRIA</b>	
<b>ISSUING AUTHORITIES</b>	Public Prosecution Services or Courts; in fiscal matters below the threshold for punishable acts before courts: financial criminal authority; in other administrative matters: district administrations and federal police authorities
<b>VALIDATING AUTHORITIES</b>	No validation in case of EIO issued by Public Prosecutors offices or Courts; in fiscal matters below the threshold for punishable acts before courts: Head of appraisal senate; in other administrative matters: Administrative Court
<b>RECEIVING AUTHORITIES</b>	Public Prosecution Services or Courts; in fiscal matters below the threshold for punishable acts before courts: financial criminal authority; in other administrative matters: district administrations and federal police authorities
<b>EXECUTING AUTHORITIES</b>	Same as receiving authorities
<b>CENTRAL/SPECIFIC AUTHORITIES</b>	In cases of serious economic crime and corruption (including: misuse of official power): the Central Prosecutor's Office for Economic Crime and Corruption in Vienna
<b>URGENT MATTERS</b>	Public Prosecution Services
<b>ACCEPTED LANGUAGES</b>	German; in relation to Member States that accept German also their official languages are accepted
<b>ENTRY INTO FORCE</b>	1 July 2018






BELGIUM	
<b>ISSUING AUTHORITIES</b>	<p>The following Belgian judicial authorities are, in accordance with requirements laid down in the law of 22 May 2017 and the Code of Criminal Procedure, competent to issue an EIO:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the public prosecutor;</li> <li>- the investigative judge.</li> </ul> <p>The General Customs and Excise Administration is competent to issue an EIO concerning offences that fall under its exclusive competence if this administration is competent to order the measure itself in a similar domestic case.</p>
<b>VALIDATING AUTHORITIES</b>	When an EIO is issued by the General Customs and Excise Administration, it needs to be validated by an investigative judge.
<b>RECEIVING AUTHORITIES</b>	<p>The Belgian authority competent to receive an EIO is the public prosecutor locally competent to execute the investigative measure or one of the investigative measures indicated in the EIO.</p> <p>EIOs may also be sent to the Federal Prosecutor, in particular in the following cases:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- urgency;</li> <li>- the location of the investigative measure needs to be determined;</li> <li>- coordination of the execution of the EIO is needed.</li> </ul> <p>EIOs concerning offences falling under the exclusive competence of the General Customs and Excise Administration may be sent directly to this administration.</p>
<b>EXECUTING AUTHORITIES</b>	<p>The following Belgian judicial authorities are, in accordance with requirements laid down in the law of 22 May 2017 and the Code of Criminal Procedure, competent to execute an EIO:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the public prosecutor;</li> <li>- the investigative judge.</li> </ul> <p>The General Customs and Excise Administration is competent to execute an EIO concerning offences that fall under its exclusive competence if this administration is competent to order the measure itself in a similar domestic case.</p>
<b>CENTRAL/SPECIFIC AUTHORITIES</b>	<p>Belgium has not designated a central authority.</p> <p>EIOs may also be sent to the Federal Prosecutor, in particular in the following cases:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- urgency;</li> <li>- the location of the investigative measure needs to be determined;</li> <li>- coordination of the execution of the EIO is needed.</li> </ul>
<b>URGENT MATTERS</b>	






<b>ACCEPTED LANGUAGES</b>	French, Dutch, German or English.
<b>ENTRY INTO FORCE</b>	22 May 2017.
 <b>BULGARIA</b>	
<b>ISSUING AUTHORITIES</b>	<p>The competent authorities able to issue an EIO are the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A public prosecutor – in the pre-trial criminal proceedings</li> </ul> <p>If the EIO refers to organized crime, the competent authority is the Specialized Prosecutor's Office regardless of the place of commitment the crime. In all other cases, the competent authority is the respective first instance prosecutor's office according to the rules of subject matter and territorial jurisdiction according to the Bulgarian legislation – art. 35 and art. 36 of Criminal Procedure Code of the Republic of Bulgaria. If the crime is committed outside the territory of Bulgaria and the perpetrator is a Bulgarian citizen, the competent authority is the prosecutor's office at his/her place of residence. In the same case, but if the perpetrator is not a Bulgarian citizen, the competent authority is a Prosecutor's Office in Sofia.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A judge – in the trial itself</li> </ul> <p>If the EIO refers to organized crime, the competent authority is the Specialized Criminal Court regardless of the place of commitment of crime. In all other cases the competent authority is the respective first instance court according to the rules described in connection to the pre-trial criminal proceedings.</p>
<b>VALIDATING AUTHORITIES</b>	N/A.
<b>RECEIVING AUTHORITIES</b>	<p>The competent authorities able to receive an EIO are the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With regard to pre-trial criminal proceedings</li> </ul> <p>A prosecutor of the respective District Prosecutor's Office or Military District Prosecutor's Office within whose judicial area of competence the relevant investigative measure or other procedural measures are requested to be carried out, of evidence which is already in possession is requested to be transferred, or a prosecutor of the Specialized Prosecutor's Office.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With regard to a trial itself</li> </ul> <p>A judge of the respective District Court or Military District Court within whose judicial area of competence the relevant investigative measure or other procedural measures are requested to be carried out, of evidence which is already in possession is requested to be transferred, or a judge of the Specialized Criminal Court.</p> <p>Where an EIO requests the carrying out of an investigative measure or other procedural measures which extend to multiple judicial districts, the authority competent to recognise any such order shall be the authority within whose judicial district</p>






	the most urgent measure is to be carried out.
<b>EXECUTING AUTHORITIES</b>	The same as receiving authorities. <i>Please, be advised that the contact details of all District prosecutors offices and courts are available on the EJN Website.</i>
<b>CENTRAL/SPECIFIC AUTHORITIES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With regard to a temporary transfer of a person held in custody on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria for the purpose of carrying out an investigative measure and other procedural measures The authority competent to recognise and execute an EIO in such cases shall be a judge of the respective District Court within whose judicial area of competence the person held in custody is located.</li> <li>• With regard to a transit of persons in custody through the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria for temporary transfer for the purpose of carrying out an investigative measure and other procedural measures The authority competent to receive applications for transit in such cases shall be a prosecutor of the Supreme Prosecutor's Office of Cassation /International Unit/. This is not applicable in the case of transport by air without a scheduled stopover in the Republic of Bulgaria.</li> </ul>
<b>URGENT MATTERS</b>	Bulgarian authorities will only recognise and execute legally valid EIOs even for urgent matters. This means that the EIO shall be transmitted to the executing authority by any means capable of producing a written record allowing the establishment of authenticity.
<b>ACCEPTED LANGUAGES</b>	Bulgarian or English. With regard to the prompt recognition and execution of the EIO, it is recommended the latter to be translated into Bulgarian language in advance.
<b>ENTRY INTO FORCE</b>	23 February 2018.
 <b>CZECH REPUBLIC</b>	
<b>ISSUING AUTHORITIES</b>	Judicial Authorities: competent court (judge) /public prosecutor depending on the stage of the proceedings
<b>VALIDATING AUTHORITIES</b>	No.
<b>RECEIVING AUTHORITIES</b>	<p>In the pre-trial stage of the proceedings: locally competent Regional Public Prosecutor's Office depending on place where an investigation should take place.</p> <p>During a trial stage of the proceedings: locally competent Regional Court depending on place where the EIO should be executed.</p> <p>The EIO should be submitted directly to the competent judicial authority.</p> <p>In case several public prosecutor's offices or courts are competent, the EIO will be executed by the public prosecutor's</p>






	office or court, to which was the request first delivered or forwarded by an authority not competent to accept it.
<b>EXECUTING AUTHORITIES</b>	The same as the receiving authorities.  High Public Prosecutor's Office can be a competent authority for execution of the request with a consent of the Supreme Public Prosecutor's Office under special circumstances: pre-trial proceedings in the foreign state is connected to a criminal proceedings conducted in the Czech Republic.
<b>CENTRAL/SPECIFIC AUTHORITIES</b>	The Supreme Public Prosecutor's Office (in the pre-trial stage of the proceedings) and the Ministry of Justice (in the trial stage of the proceedings) can provide technical/administrative support.  The competent judicial authorities should be contacted directly.
<b>URGENT MATTERS</b>	If the matter clearly cannot be delayed and if there is no doubt about the credibility of the request, the judicial or central authority may initiate execution of actions of international judicial cooperation on the basis of a request of a foreign authority made via telephone, facsimile, electronically, through international police cooperation, personally via a representative of the foreign authority or otherwise. Unless an international treaty or this Act provide otherwise, they will always request the foreign authority to send the original of the request in documentary form within a time period specified by them.  Anyway, the language regime should be kept.
<b>ACCEPTED LANGUAGES</b>	Czech or Slovak language.
<b>ENTRY INTO FORCE</b>	16 August 2018
 <b>CROATIA</b>	
<b>ISSUING AUTHORITIES</b>	The competent authorities in Republic of Croatia to issue an EIO are: - Municipal and County State Attorney's Offices - Municipal Courts and County Courts - Misdemeanour Courts.
<b>VALIDATING AUTHORITIES</b>	N/A.
<b>RECEIVING AUTHORITIES</b>	County State Attorney's Office competent depending on the area of execution of requested investigative measure or depending on the area where an evidence is located.





	For the purpose of carrying out an investigative measure supervision of telecommunications when the subject of supervision is located on territory of the Republic of Croatia and the Republic of Croatia does not provide technical assistance to carry out the supervision (Article 31 of the Directive), the competent authority for receiving notifications regarding supervision is County Court in Zagreb.
<b>EXECUTING AUTHORITIES</b>	Same as receiving authorities.
<b>CENTRAL/SPECIFIC AUTHORITIES</b>	N/A. However, the Ministry of Justice may assist with identifying competent authorities or provide other relevant information if needed.
<b>URGENT MATTERS</b>	
<b>ACCEPTED LANGUAGES</b>	Croatian. However, in urgent cases a translation into English will be accepted on condition of reciprocity.
<b>ENTRY INTO FORCE</b>	26 October 2017.
 <b>CYPRUS</b>	
<b>ISSUING AUTHORITIES</b>	The District Judge , in the district of which has jurisdiction to deal with the offense in respect of which it is issued an EIO
<b>VALIDATING AUTHORITIES</b>	The same as Issuing Authorities
<b>RECEIVING AUTHORITIES</b>	The Ministry of Justice & Public Order
<b>EXECUTING AUTHORITIES</b>	The competent authorities for executing an EIO are- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The competent Judge that has local jurisdiction to order such an investigative measure that is covered in the EIO,</li> <li>• The authorities competent to decide to take such investigative measure covered by an EIO (The Office of the Attorney General, The Cyprus Police, The Director of Customs, The Commisioner of Taxation)</li> </ul>
<b>CENTRAL/SPECIFIC AUTHORITIES</b>	The Ministry of Justice & Public Order
<b>URGENT MATTERS</b>	
<b>ACCEPTED LANGUAGES</b>	Greek and English
<b>ENTRY INTO FORCE</b>	15 December 2017





ESTONIA	
ISSUING AUTHORITIES	In accordance with requirements laid down in the law of 14 June 2017 (amendments to the Criminal Procedure Code), competent to issue an EIO are: - The public prosecutor - The judge.
VALIDATING AUTHORITIES	N/A.
RECEIVING AUTHORITIES	Estonian Prosecutor General's Office.
EXECUTING AUTHORITIES	In accordance with requirements laid down in the law of 14 June 2017 (amendments to the Criminal Procedure Code), competent to execute an EIO is the public prosecutor.
CENTRAL/SPECIFIC AUTHORITIES	Estonia has not designated a central authority.
URGENT MATTERS	
ACCEPTED LANGUAGES	English and/or Estonian.
ENTRY INTO FORCE	6 July 2017.
FINLAND	
ISSUING AUTHORITIES	Where Finland is the <b>issuing</b> State, the competent authorities are: - an official with the power of arrest authorised to head investigations within the police, customs or the border guard. In this case the order is validated by the prosecutor; - prosecutor, district court, court of appeal, supreme court
VALIDATING AUTHORITIES	The prosecutor for the orders issued by the police, customs or the border guard.
RECEIVING AUTHORITIES	The same as the executing authorities.
EXECUTING AUTHORITIES	Where Finland is the <b>executing</b> State, the competent authorities are: - the police, border and customs authorities;





	<p>- Helsinki district court and prosecutors operating under the jurisdiction of the Helsinki district court. However, the hearing of witnesses, experts and other parties in court is the jurisdiction of the court of the district in which the party to be heard has their place of domicile or permanent/temporary residence. If circumstances so warrant, another district court or prosecutor may act as executing authority.</p>
<b>CENTRAL/SPECIFIC AUTHORITIES</b>	<p><b>Central Authority:</b> The Ministry of Justice acts as the central authority within the meaning of Article 7(3) of the Directive. Its remit is to assist the competent authorities in communications relating to the transfer of an investigation order.</p> <p><b>Competent authorities for transit requests:</b> The competent authorities of the other Member State must send the Helsinki prosecution unit making the transit decision the details of the identity of the individual to be transported through Finland and the investigation order.</p>
<b>URGENT MATTERS</b>	<p>EIOs are mostly executed by police in Finland, some by courts and very few by prosecutors.</p> <p><b>In urgent matters:</b></p> <p>For EIOs executed by the police, the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) should be contacted. In NBI there is someone present 24/7 and their contact details are in the EJM Atlas. NBI should be contacted not only by written message but also make sure by phone that the execution has started. It is possible to start measures to ensure execution without the EIO form, if the person sending the request can be identified as competent authority and NBI is assured that EIO form will shortly follow. For identification reasons in urgent cases Interpol or Siena channels are advisable to be used. Also the Finnish desk at Europol is available.</p> <p>The EIOs executed by courts are such by nature that there is no real urgency. The courts would demand an EIO form, but they accept it by email or fax.</p> <p>Prosecutors would in the few cases they have (temporary transfer to Finland ) as a rule need to have the EIO. It can be sent by email (or fax). Early warning by email is accepted and some action can be taken already then if necessary.</p>
<b>ACCEPTED LANGUAGES</b>	<p>Finnish, Swedish or English.</p> <p>The executing authority can always in urgent cases be asked if other languages besides Finnish, Swedish or English can be used.</p>
<b>ENTRY INTO FORCE</b>	<p>3 July 2017.</p>






FRANCE	
<b>ISSUING AUTHORITIES</b>	The competent issuing authority under Article 2© and (d) of the above Directive will be the public prosecutor, the examining magistrate, the examining chamber and its presiding judge, and the trial and sentencing courts and their presiding judges, in accordance with Article 694-20 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.
<b>VALIDATING AUTHORITIES</b>	N/A.
<b>RECEIVING AUTHORITIES</b>	The same as executing/central authorities.
<b>EXECUTING AUTHORITIES</b>	The competent executing authority will be the public prosecutor or the examining magistrate with territorial jurisdiction, in accordance with Articles 694-30, D. 47-1-10 and D. 47-1-11 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.
<b>CENTRAL/SPECIFIC AUTHORITIES</b>	<p>Pursuant to Article 7(3) of the Directive, the following central authorities will be tasked with assisting the competent judicial authorities in three cases:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the Director of the Prisons Service within the Ministry of Justice will assist the French issuing or executing authority referred to under a) above by formalising transfer requests for detained persons in liaison with the competent authorities of the foreign country, in accordance with Articles D. 47-1-6 and D. 47-1-18 of the Code of Criminal Procedure;</li> <li>the Director of the Prisons Service within the Ministry of Justice will assist the French issuing authority referred to under a) above by formalising transit requests for detained persons in liaison with the competent authorities of the foreign country, in accordance with Article D. 47-1-6 of the Code of Criminal Procedure;</li> <li>the Director of Criminal Matters and Pardons within the Ministry of Justice (Office for International Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters) will provide technical or legal assistance if any difficulties are encountered by the national judicial authority or the foreign authority.</li> </ul> <p>Moreover, the following central authorities will be competent in three cases:</p>






	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the Minister for Justice will be able to refuse the recognition or execution of a European Investigation Order that could be detrimental to fundamental national security interests, imperil the source of information or include the use of information classified under Article 694-34 of the Code of Criminal Procedure;</li> <li>the Director of Criminal Matters and Pardons within the Ministry of Justice (Office for International Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters) will be responsible for authorising the transit of a person detained on French territory as part of the execution of a European Investigation Order (EIO) issued by another Member State, in accordance with Article D. 47-1-19 of the Code of Criminal Procedure;</li> <li>the Director of Criminal Matters and Pardons within the Ministry of Justice (Office for International Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters) will be responsible for responding to telecommunications interception notifications laid down by Article 31 of the Directive, in accordance with Article D. 32-2-1 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.</li> </ul>
<b>URGENT MATTERS</b>	If the matter is urgent, the EIO can be sent via e-mail to the competent judicial authority, provided that the original of the EIO and relevant documents will be delivered as soon as possible
<b>ACCEPTED LANGUAGES</b>	French.
<b>ENTRY INTO FORCE</b>	22 May 2017.
 <b>GERMANY</b>	
<b>ISSUING AUTHORITIES</b>	<p>Any judicial authority (Federal Prosecutor General of the Federal Court of Justice, the prosecutor's offices, the prosecutor general's offices, the central authority in Ludwigsburg [for the investigation of National Socialist crimes], any criminal court) depending on the allocation of competences.</p> <p>Administrative authorities competent for prosecuting and punishing administrative offences.</p> <p>EIOs from German fiscal authorities which are independently conducting a criminal investigation pursuant to section 386 (2) Tax Code do not require validation by a judicial authority or a court. In this case the fiscal authorities exercise the rights and responsibilities of a prosecutor's office in accordance with section 399 (1) Tax Code in conjunction with section 77 (1) Act on International cooperation in Criminal Matters and themselves act as judicial authority within the meaning of article 2(c) EIO directive.</p>






<b>VALIDATING AUTHORITIES</b>	The prosecutor's office in whose jurisdiction the administrative authority is based. The Länder may regulate the local competence in a different way or allocate the competence to a court.
<b>RECEIVING AUTHORITIES</b>	The same as issuing authorities.
<b>EXECUTING AUTHORITIES</b>	The same as issuing authorities.
<b>CENTRAL/SPECIFIC AUTHORITIES</b>	N/A.
<b>URGENT MATTERS</b>	It is advisable to get in touch with the competent authority directly or via the EJN to find out what is necessary/could be accepted on a case to case basis.
<b>ACCEPTED LANGUAGES</b>	German.
<b>ENTRY INTO FORCE</b>	22 May 2017.
 <b>GREECE</b>	
<b>ISSUING AUTHORITIES</b>	The competent authorities in Greece to issue an EIO are: a) the judge, the court, the examining magistrate or the prosecutor b) any other authority acting as investigative authority in a specific penal case.
<b>VALIDATING AUTHORITIES</b>	When the EIO is issued by any other authority acting as investigative authority in a specific penal case, according to the specific legislation, as Customs, police e.t.c., it must be validated by the competent prosecutor.
<b>RECEIVING AUTHORITIES</b>	The Public Prosecutor at the Court of Appeal is territorially competent to recognise the EIO and ensure its execution.
<b>EXECUTING AUTHORITIES</b>	Same as the receiving authorities. The Public Prosecutor at the Court of Appeal who receives the EIO will designate an examining judge for its execution.
<b>CENTRAL/SPECIFIC AUTHORITIES</b>	The Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights has been designated as a central authority to assist, if needed.






<b>URGENT MATTERS</b>	
<b>ACCEPTED LANGUAGES</b>	Greek and English.
<b>ENTRY INTO FORCE</b>	21 September 2017.
 <b>HUNGARY</b>	
<b>ISSUING AUTHORITIES</b>	<p>The following Hungarian judicial authorities are competent to issue an EIO:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the public prosecutor;</li> <li>- the judge.</li> </ul> <p>In case of an administrative offence, the authority or court issues the EIO, which conducts the proceedings.</p> <p>In case of urgency, controlled deliveries or the application of covert investigators can be initiated by the competent director of the police or of the National Tax and Customs Administration, appointed by the relevant law, for the duration of 24 hours, with the immediate notification of the competent public prosecutor, whose subsequent approval is required.</p>
<b>VALIDATING AUTHORITIES</b>	<p>When an EIO is issued by a public prosecutor during investigative phase for a measure, that falls under the competence of the investigative judge, the EIO needs to be validated by an investigative judge.</p> <p>In case an EIO for an administrative offence is not issued by a court, the EIO will be validated by the Office of the Prosecutor General.</p>
<b>RECEIVING AUTHORITIES</b>	<p>Same as executing authorities.</p> <p>EIO-s might be also transmitted through secure channels of EJM or Eurojust.</p> <p>In cases of legal assistance for administrative offences, the receiving authority is the central authority, which is the Prosecutor General.</p>
<b>EXECUTING AUTHORITIES</b>	<p>The following Hungarian judicial authorities are competent to execute an EIO:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the public prosecutor;</li> <li>- the judge.</li> </ul> <p>In case of an administrative offence, the competent authority or court executes the EIO, which has jurisdiction in the case.</p> <p>In case of urgency, the execution of controlled deliveries or the application of covert investigators can be granted by the competent director of the police or of the National Tax and Customs Administration, appointed by the relevant law, for the</p>







	duration of 24 hours, with the immediate notification of the competent public prosecutor, whose subsequent approval is required.
<b>CENTRAL/SPECIFIC AUTHORITIES</b>	Hungary has not designated a central authority. In cases of legal assistance for administrative offences, the central authority is the Prosecutor General.
<b>URGENT MATTERS</b>	In case of urgent cases or in case the transmission of the EIO in Hungarian language meets extreme difficulties, English, French or German language is accepted.
<b>ACCEPTED LANGUAGES</b>	Hungarian. In case of urgent cases or in case the transmission of the EIO in Hungarian language meets extreme difficulties, English, French or German language is accepted.
<b>ENTRY INTO FORCE</b>	23 May 2017.
 <b>ITALY</b>	
<b>ISSUING AUTHORITIES</b>	A European Investigation Order may exclusively be issued only by Italian Judicial Authorities (a Prosecutor of the Republic or a Judge in charge of the proceedings).
<b>VALIDATING AUTHORITIES</b>	N/A.
<b>RECEIVING AUTHORITIES</b>	The same as the executing authorities.
<b>EXECUTING AUTHORITIES</b>	The Authority executing a European Investigation Order shall be the Prosecutor of the Republic at the court of the main city of the district where the requested activity shall be carried out. When the aim of the request for legal assistance is to carry out activities which need to be executed in various districts, they shall be executed by the Prosecutor of the district where the higher number of activities shall be performed or, if their number is the same, the Prosecutor of the Republic of the district where the most significant investigative measure needs to be taken. When the issuing authority asks for the activity to be carried out by a judge or when the requested activity shall be carried out by a judge pursuant to Italian law, a Prosecutor of the Republic shall recognise the investigation order and ask the Pre-Trial Investigation judge to execute it.
<b>CENTRAL/SPECIFIC AUTHORITIES</b>	The Ministry of Justice, Directorate General for Criminal Justice, <i>Ufficio II</i> – International Cooperation.
<b>URGENT MATTERS</b>	
<b>ACCEPTED LANGUAGES</b>	Italian. This choice satisfies the need to recognise and execute the Order within the time frame laid down in the Directive.






<b>ENTRY INTO FORCE</b>	28 July 2017.
 <b>LATVIA</b>	
<b>ISSUING AUTHORITIES</b>	Pre-trial stage – a person directing the proceedings: - in an investigation – an investigator or in exceptional cases a public prosecutor; - in a criminal prosecution – a public prosecutor. In trial stage – a judge who leads the trial.
<b>VALIDATING AUTHORITIES</b>	In pre-trial stage – the supervising public prosecutor. No validating in trial stage.
<b>RECEIVING AUTHORITIES</b>	- Latvian State Police – during pre-trial investigation until prosecution ;  - Prosecutor General's Office – during pre-trial investigation until submitting the case to the court;  - The Ministry of Justice – during the trial.
<b>EXECUTING AUTHORITIES</b>	Pre-trial stage: - in prosecution stage Prosecutor General's Office, - until the prosecution – Latvian State Police. Trial stage – first instance courts depending on jurisdiction.
<b>CENTRAL/SPECIFIC AUTHORITIES</b>	The same as receiving authorities.
<b>URGENT MATTERS</b>	- Latvia can receive in urgent matters an e-mail request. - English may be accepted, but in some cases the principle of reciprocity could be applied.
<b>ACCEPTED LANGUAGES</b>	Latvian.
<b>ENTRY INTO FORCE</b>	20 May 2017.
 <b>LITHUANIA</b>	
<b>ISSUING AUTHORITIES</b>	The issuing authorities are the following: - the court handling the case in a trial stage; - the regional prosecutor's office handling or in charge of the pre-trial investigation;






	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the Prosecutor General's Office in cases when:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) it is handling or in charge of the pre-trial investigation;</li> <li>2) the EIO is for temporary transfer of the person pursuant to Articles 22 and 23 of the Directive.</li> </ol> </li> </ul>
<b>VALIDATING AUTHORITIES</b>	N/A.
<b>RECEIVING AUTHORITIES</b>	The same as executing authorities.
<b>EXECUTING AUTHORITIES</b>	<p>The executing authorities are the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- district courts, when the EIO is issued in a trial stage;</li> <li>- regional prosecutor's offices, when the EIO is issued in a pre-trial stage;</li> <li>- the Prosecutor General's Office, when:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) the EIO is issued for temporary transfer of the person pursuant to Articles 22 and 23 of the Directive;</li> <li>2) the EIO is issued in a pre-trial stage and:                   <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) there is no possibility to locate the exact territory for execution;</li> <li>b) there is more than one location for execution and there is a need for coordination of the execution of the EIO.</li> </ol> </li> </ol> </li> </ul>
<b>CENTRAL/SPECIFIC AUTHORITIES</b>	<p>Two central authorities are appointed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) the Prosecutor General's Office in a pre-trial stage and</li> <li>2) the Ministry of Justice in a trial stage.</li> </ol> <p>These two central authorities are there to assist the competent authorities, when required.</p> <p>The Law, which transposed the provisions of the Directive, is aimed at direct communication between competent issuing and executing authorities. Thus, the outgoing EIOs shall be transmitted directly by the competent issuing authority to the competent authority in another Member State. The same applies for incoming EIOs.</p>
<b>URGENT MATTERS</b>	
<b>ACCEPTED LANGUAGES</b>	Lithuanian or English.
<b>ENTRY INTO FORCE</b>	15 June 2017.
 <b>MALTA</b>	
<b>ISSUING</b>	The issuing authorities are the following:






<b>AUTHORITIES</b>	A judge, a court, an investigating judge or a public prosecutor competent in the case concerned
<b>VALIDATING AUTHORITIES</b>	
<b>RECEIVING AUTHORITIES</b>	The Attorney General
<b>EXECUTING AUTHORITIES</b>	The Attorney General, the Executive Police, and the Court
<b>CENTRAL/SPECIFIC AUTHORITIES</b>	The Attorney General
<b>URGENT MATTERS</b>	In urgent matters an EIO may be sent via email, however the original EIO has to be sent as per Maltese Law as soon as possible
<b>ACCEPTED LANGUAGES</b>	Maltese, English.
<b>ENTRY INTO FORCE</b>	24 October 2017.
 <b>THE NETHERLANDS</b>	
<b>ISSUING AUTHORITIES</b>	The following Dutch judicial authorities are, in accordance with Article 5.4.21 of the law of 31 May 2017 competent to issue an EIO: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the public prosecutor;</li> <li>- the examining judge;</li> <li>- court.</li> </ul>
<b>VALIDATING AUTHORITIES</b>	N/A.
<b>RECEIVING AUTHORITIES</b>	The Dutch authority competent to receive an EIO is the Centre for International Legal Assistance locally competent to execute the investigative measure or one of the investigative measures indicated in the EIO. EIOs may also be sent to the National Centre for International Legal Assistance, in particular in the following cases: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- cross border surveillance and the location in the Netherlands is unknown;</li> <li>- the location of the investigative measure needs to be determined;</li> </ul>






	- coordination of the execution of the EIO is needed, since measures in several districts are required.
<b>EXECUTING AUTHORITIES</b>	The public prosecutor at local Centres for International Legal Assistance (10 IRC's) or at the National Centre for International Legal Assistance (LIRC) is competent to execute an EIO.
<b>CENTRAL/SPECIFIC AUTHORITIES</b>	The same as receiving authorities. The LIRC may involve the National Prosecution Service (LP) or the Fuctional Prosecution Service (FP) to execute an EIO.
<b>URGENT MATTERS</b>	
<b>ACCEPTED LANGUAGES</b>	Dutch or English.
<b>ENTRY INTO FORCE</b>	17 June 2017.
 <b>POLAND</b>	
<b>ISSUING AUTHORITIES</b>	<p>The competent authorities able to issue an EIO are the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any prosecutor</li> <li>• Any court</li> <li>• Other investigating authorities or authorities entitled to conduct investigation, such as: Police, Border Guard, Internal Security Agency, National revenue Administration, Central Anticorruption Bureau, Military Police, Trade Inspectorate and the State Sanitary Inspectorate, the President of the Office of Electronic Communications, State Hunting Guard, Forest Service, heads of Customs and Revenue Offices and heads of Revenue Offices, the Military Counter-Intelligence Service and Military Intelligence Service</li> </ul>
<b>VALIDATING AUTHORITIES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any prosecutor</li> <li>• District and circuit courts</li> </ul>
<b>RECEIVING AUTHORITIES</b>	The same as executing authorities.
<b>EXECUTING</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Generally, circuit prosecutors – at the pre-trial stage</li> </ul>





<b>AUTHORITIES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>District courts – at the trial stage</li> </ul> <p>and regardless of the stage of the proceedings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Circuit courts in matters concerning the temporary transfer of a person held in custody to the issuing State or to Poland to carry out investigative measures</li> <li>District courts in matters relating to interception of telecommunications</li> </ul>
<b>CENTRAL/SPECIFIC AUTHORITIES</b>	<p>One Central Authority only for cases at the pre-trial stage is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>The National Prosecutor's Office, Bureau of International Cooperation</b>, ul. Rakowiecka 26/30, 02-528 Warszawa, tel.: +48 22 1251490, fax: +48 22 1251422, e-mail: <a href="mailto:sekretariat.bwm@pk.gov.pl">sekretariat.bwm@pk.gov.pl</a></li> </ul> <p>Poland did not establish a Central Authority for cases at the judicial stage of the proceedings. However, if an EIO was issued at the judicial stage of the proceedings and establishing the competent court was not possible (even via EIJN Contact Points), the transmission of an EIO is possible via <b>the Ministry of Justice, Department of International Cooperation and Human Rights</b>, ul. Chopina 1, 00-950 Warszawa, tel.: +48 22 2390870, fax: +48 22 6280949, e-mail: <a href="mailto:dwmpc@ms.gov.pl">dwmpc@ms.gov.pl</a></p>
<b>URGENT MATTERS</b>	In urgent matters fax or e-mail transmission of an EIO will be accepted.
<b>ACCEPTED LANGUAGES</b>	Poland accepts EIOs in Polish. In case of urgency then English would also be acceptable.
<b>ENTRY INTO FORCE</b>	8 February 2018
 <b>PORTUGAL</b>	
<b>ISSUING AUTHORITIES</b>	<p>The competent authorities to issue an EIO, in accordance with article 12º of Law 88/2017, of 21 August, are the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the public prosecutor;</li> <li>- the examining judge;</li> <li>- the judge.</li> </ul>
<b>VALIDATING</b>	When an administrative authority with regard to an administrative offence proceeding issues an EIO, it needs to be validated by the public prosecution.






<b>AUTHORITIES</b>	
<b>RECEIVING AUTHORITIES</b>	The competent authorities to receive and execute an EIO, in accordance with article 19º of Law 88/2017, of 21 August, are the same national authorities locally competent to order an investigative measure, in accordance with the provisions of the Portuguese criminal procedural law.
<b>EXECUTING AUTHORITIES</b>	The same as receiving authorities.
<b>CENTRAL/SPECIFIC AUTHORITIES</b>	The central authority is, under article 10º Law 88/2017, of 21 August, the Prosecutor General's Office  The Law, which transposed the provisions of the Directive, is aimed at direct communication between competent issuing and executing authorities. Thus, the outgoing EIOs shall be transmitted directly by the competent issuing authority to the competent authority in another Member State. The same applies for incoming EIOs.
<b>URGENT MATTERS</b>	
<b>ACCEPTED LANGUAGES</b>	Portuguese.
<b>ENTRY INTO FORCE</b>	22 August 2017.
<b>ROMANIA</b>	
<b>ISSUING AUTHORITIES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The competent Prosecutor's Office during the criminal prosecution (pre-trial) phase.</li> <li>➤ The competent court during the trial phase.</li> </ul>
<b>VALIDATING AUTHORITIES</b>	N/A.
<b>RECEIVING AUTHORITIES</b>	The same as the executing authorities. The Central Authority (see below) may also receive European Investigation Orders, but <u>the direct contact is the rule</u> .
<b>EXECUTING AUTHORITIES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The competent Prosecutor's Office during the criminal prosecution (pre-trial) phase.</li> <li>➤ The competent court during the trial phase.</li> </ul>
<b>CENTRAL/SPECIFIC AUTHORITIES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Ministry of Justice, Directorate for International Law and Judicial Cooperation, Division for International Judicial Cooperation in Criminal matters – during trial phase;</li> <li>➤ Public Ministry – during criminal prosecution phase, as follows:</li> </ul>






	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- National Anti-Corruption Directorate, International Judicial Cooperation Unit – for serious corruption offences;</li> <li>- Directorate for Investigation of Organised Crime and Terrorism, International Judicial Cooperation Unit – for organised crime and terrorism offences;</li> <li>- Prosecutor's Office of the High Court of Cassation and Justice, International Judicial Cooperation Unit, for other crimes.</li> </ul>
<b>URGENT MATTERS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ In urgent situations, Romanian authorities may request translation of the European Investigation Order directly into Romanian.</li> <li>➤ E-mail communication is accepted, provided that the authenticity can be established.</li> </ul>
<b>ACCEPTED LANGUAGES</b>	Romanian, English or French.
<b>ENTRY INTO FORCE</b>	17 December 2017.
 <b>SLOVAKIA</b>	
<b>ISSUING AUTHORITIES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The competent court, during trial.</li> <li>- The competent prosecutor, during a pre-trial stage of proceedings.</li> </ul>
<b>VALIDATING AUTHORITIES</b>	N/A
<b>RECEIVING AUTHORITIES</b>	The same as executing authorities.
<b>EXECUTING AUTHORITIES</b>	Regional prosecutor's office according to the place where an investigation should take place, when more Regional prosecutor's offices are competent, the one which received the EIO will execute it. If it is not possible to determine which Regional prosecutor's office is competent, General prosecutor's office will decide which one will execute the EIO. If it is requested that it must be executed by court, then District court according to the place where the execution of the EIO will be realised is competent.
<b>CENTRAL/SPECIFIC AUTHORITIES</b>	N/A
<b>URGENT MATTERS</b>	The Slovak Republic can accept in urgent matters EIO sent via email or fax or through Eurojust, however original copy of EIO and relevant documents have to be delivered as soon as possible. Unfortunately, everything has to be translated into Slovak (and the Czech Republic can send it in Czech language).
<b>ACCEPTED</b>	Slovak






<b>LANGUAGES</b>	Czech Republic can send EIO in Czech language.
<b>ENTRY INTO FORCE</b>	15 October 2017.
 <b>SLOVENIA</b>	
<b>ISSUING AUTHORITIES</b>	<p>1) <u>State Prosecutor</u> at the District State Prosecution Office or the Specialised State Prosecution Office of the Republic of Slovenia <u>for the following investigative measures in pre-criminal or criminal procedure</u>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• secret surveillance without using technical devices,</li> <li>• feigned purchase,</li> <li>• feigned acceptance or giving of gifts or feigned acceptance or giving of bribes,</li> <li>• undercover operations without using technical devices,</li> <li>• suspended arrest of a suspect or suspended performance of other measures with a view to discovering a major criminal activity (e. g. controlled delivery).</li> </ul> <p>2) <u>Investigative judge</u> at the District Court <u>for the remaining investigative measures in pre-criminal or criminal procedure</u>.</p> <p>3) <u>The Local Court</u> for investigative measures in the procedure on <u>misdemeanours</u>.</p>
<b>VALIDATING AUTHORITIES</b>	N/A
<b>RECEIVING AUTHORITIES</b>	<p>1) <u>State Prosecutor</u> at the District State Prosecution Office within the jurisdiction of which the requested investigative measure should be performed, <u>for the following investigative measures in pre-criminal or criminal procedure</u>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• secret surveillance without using technical devices,</li> <li>• feigned purchase,</li> <li>• feigned acceptance or giving of gifts or feigned acceptance or giving of bribes,</li> <li>• undercover operations without using technical devices,</li> <li>• suspended arrest of a suspect or suspended performance of other measures with a view to discovering a major criminal activity (e. g. controlled delivery).</li> </ul> <p>For the cases where the territorial jurisdiction of the District State Prosecution Office cannot be established: the District</p>





	<p>State Prosecution Office of Ljubljana.</p> <p>2) <u>Investigative Judge</u> at the District Court within the jurisdiction of which the requested investigative measure should be performed, <u>for for the remaining investigative measures in pre-criminal or criminal procedure</u>.</p> <p>For the cases where the territorial jurisdiction of the District Court cannot be established: the District Court of Ljubljana.</p> <p>3) <u>The Local Court</u> within the jurisdiction of which the requested investigative measure should be performed <u>for investigative measures in the procedure on misdemeanours</u>.</p>
<b>EXECUTING AUTHORITIES</b>	The same as the receiving authorities.
<b>CENTRAL/SPECIFIC AUTHORITIES</b>	N/A The Republic of Slovenia does not designate a central authority. However, the Ministry of Justice may assist with identifying competent authorities or provide other relevant information if needed.
<b>URGENT MATTERS</b>	In urgent matters an EIO may be sent via email, however the original EIO has to be sent as soon as possible.
<b>ACCEPTED LANGUAGES</b>	Slovene or English language.
<b>ENTRY INTO FORCE</b>	5 May 2018
 <b>SPAIN</b>	
<b>ISSUING AUTHORITIES</b>	<p>The courts or tribunals dealing with the criminal proceedings in which the investigative measures are to be taken or who have admitted the evidence in the trial:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigating courts</li> <li>• Central investigating courts</li> <li>• Criminal courts and central criminal court</li> </ul>






	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Court of violence against women</li> <li>• Juvenile courts</li> <li>• Central juvenile court</li> <li>• Provincial Courts</li> <li>• Criminal chamber at the high court of justice in Autonomous Community</li> <li>• Criminal chamber of the national high court</li> <li>• Criminal chamber of the Supreme Court.</li> <li>• The public prosecutor's office in proceedings, in which it holds the investigation, if the measure is not limitative in respect of fundamental rights.</li> </ul>
<b>VALIDATING AUTHORITIES</b>	N/A
<b>RECEIVING AUTHORITIES</b>	The public prosecutor's office
<b>EXECUTING AUTHORITIES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The public prosecutor's office as long as fundamental rights are not affected</li> <li>• If fundamental rights are affected: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The investigating judge at the place where investigation is to be carried out or central investigating judges if there is no territorial connection.</li> <li>- Central investigating judges if the European order was issued for terrorism or other offences that fall within the competence of the national High court.</li> <li>- Central criminal court or the central juvenile court for transfer to the issuing State of persons deprived of their liberty in Spain.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>






<b>CENTRAL/SPECIFIC AUTHORITIES</b>	<p>For the purpose of ensuring transit through the Spanish territory of a person who is being transferred from the issuing State to the executing State or vice versa, the Spanish Central Authority to authorise the transit is the Deputy General Directorate for International Legal Cooperation of the Ministry of Justice.</p> <p>Ministerio de Justicia. Subdirección General de Cooperación Jurídica Internacional. C/San Bernardo, 62 28015 Madrid Telephone: + 34 91 390 2228 Fax: + 34 91 390 4457</p>
<b>URGENT MATTERS</b>	<p>Pursuant to Article 12 (2) of Directive 41/14 and Article 208 (5) of Spanish Law 23/14 on mutual recognition, in cases of urgency the Spanish authority shall carry out the investigative measure requested by the issuing State within the period laid down by that State, even if it is less than 90 days. The courts would demand an EIO form, but they would accept it provisionally by email or fax in Spanish.</p>
<b>ACCEPTED LANGUAGES</b>	Spanish
<b>ENTRY INTO FORCE</b>	2 July 2018
 <b>SWEDEN</b>	
<b>ISSUING AUTHORITIES</b>	Issuing authorities are public prosecutors and courts.
<b>VALIDATING AUTHORITIES</b>	N/A
<b>RECEIVING AUTHORITIES</b>	Receiving authorities are public prosecutors and courts. For more information see the Atlas.
<b>EXECUTING AUTHORITIES</b>	The same as the receiving authorities.
<b>CENTRAL/SPECIFIC AUTHORITIES</b>	Sweden has not appointed a Central Authority
<b>URGENT MATTERS</b>	The executing authority can, if deemed appropriate in the particular case, decide to accept receiving the EIO by e-mail.





<b>ACCEPTED LANGUAGES</b>	Swedish. The executing authority can, if deemed appropriate in the particular case, decide to accept English
<b>ENTRY INTO FORCE</b>	01 December 2017.
 <b>UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND</b>	
<b>ISSUING AUTHORITIES</b>	<p>The competent authorities able to issue an EIO are the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A designated public prosecutor (those listed in <a href="#">Part 1 of Schedule 1</a> to the Criminal Justice (European Investigation Order) Regulations 2017) (for England and Wales or Northern Ireland)</li> <li>• Any judge or justice of the peace (for England)</li> <li>• Any judge (for Northern Ireland)</li> <li>• Any judge of the High Court or sheriff (for Scotland)</li> <li>• The Lord Advocate or a procurator fiscal (for Scotland)</li> </ul> <p>For <u>Gibraltar</u>, the competent authorities able to issue an EIO are the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Justice of the peace</li> <li>• A Judge of the Supreme Court</li> <li>• The Attorney General of Gibraltar</li> <li>• A Crown Counsel</li> <li>• A police officer with the consent of a Crown Counsel.</li> </ul>
<b>VALIDATING AUTHORITIES</b>	<p>The competent authorities able to validate an EIO are the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A designated public prosecutor (those listed in <a href="#">Part 1 of Schedule 1</a> to the Criminal Justice (European Investigation Order) Regulations 2017) (for England and Wales or Northern Ireland)</li> <li>• Any judge or justice of the peace (for England)</li> <li>• Any judge (for Northern Ireland)</li> <li>• Any judge of the High Court or sheriff (for Scotland)</li> <li>• The Lord Advocate or a procurator fiscal (for Scotland)</li> </ul> <p>For <u>Gibraltar</u>, the competent authorities able to validate an EIO are the following:</p>





	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Judge</li> <li>• The Court</li> <li>• Crown Counsel .</li> </ul>
<b>RECEIVING AUTHORITIES</b>	<p>The same as central authorities.</p> <p>For <u>Gibraltar</u>: The Attorney General of Gibraltar.</p>
<b>EXECUTING AUTHORITIES</b>	<p>For England, Wales and Northern Ireland,. The competent authorities able to execute an EIO are the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Chief Constable of the British Transport Police Force</li> <li>• The Chief Constable of the Police Service of Northern Ireland</li> <li>• The Chief Officer of police for a police area in England and Wales</li> <li>• The Director of Public Prosecutions and any Crown Prosecutor</li> <li>• The Director of Public Prosecutions for Northern Ireland and any Public Prosecutor</li> <li>• The Director of the Serious Fraud Office and any person designated under section 1(7) of the Criminal Justice Act 1987</li> <li>• The Financial Conduct Authority</li> <li>• The Health and Safety Executive</li> <li>• Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs</li> <li>• The Land Registry</li> <li>• The Ministry of Defence Police Service</li> <li>• The National Crime Agency</li> <li>• The Northern Ireland Department for Communities</li> <li>• The Northern Ireland Department of Justice</li> <li>• The Port of Dover Police</li> <li>• The Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy</li> <li>• The Secretary of State for Defence</li> <li>• The Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs</li> <li>• The Secretary of State for the Home Department</li> <li>• The Secretary of State for Justice</li> <li>• The Secretary of State for Transport</li> <li>• The Secretary of State for Work and Pensions,</li> </ul> <p>For Scotland, the competent executing authority is the Lord Advocate.</p>





	<p>For <u>Gibraltar</u>, the competent authorities able to execute an EIO are the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A justice or justice of the peace</li> <li>• A Judge of the Supreme Court</li> <li>• The Attorney General of Gibraltar</li> <li>• A Crown Counsel</li> <li>• A police officer with the consent of a Crown Counsel</li> <li>• The Commissioner of the Royal Gibraltar Police</li> <li>• The Collector of Customs</li> <li>• The Chief Executive Officer of the Borders and Coastguard Agency</li> <li>• The Commissioner of Income Tax</li> </ul> <p>Or such other authority which is competent in the circumstances and is acting in its capacity as an investigating authority in criminal proceedings to order the gathering of evidence.</p>
<b>CENTRAL/SPECIFIC AUTHORITIES</b>	<p>The UK has three central authorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The UK Central Authority (UKCA) – EIOs for England, Wales and Northern Ireland should be sent to the UKCA</li> <li>• The Crown Office – All EIOs relating to Scotland should be sent to the Crown Office</li> <li>• Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC) – All EIOs to England, Wales and Northern Ireland relating to tax and fiscal customs matters should be sent to HMRC</li> </ul> <p>For <u>Gibraltar</u>, the Central Authority is the Attorney General of Gibraltar.</p>
<b>URGENT MATTERS</b>	<p>The UK and Gibraltar will only recognise and execute legally valid EIOs even for urgent matters (includes scanned copies by fax or email). This means that we cannot accept phone requests or unsigned EIOs.</p>
<b>ACCEPTED LANGUAGES</b>	<p>English.</p>
<b>ENTRY INTO FORCE</b>	<p>31 July 2017 for England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland; 22 May 2017 for Gibraltar.</p>