

EP Stands Up for “EU Green Prosecutor”



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European Law Forum: Prevention • Investigation • Prosecution

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News

In a resolution adopted on 23 June 2022 on illegal logging in the EU, MEPs emphasises, among other things, that the establishment of a "green prosecutor" could help to combat environmental crimes, such as illegal logging. This could be achieved by broadening the mandate of the European Public Prosecutor's Office. According to Art. 86 (4) TFEU, this would require a unanimous decision of the European Council after approval by the European Parliament and consultation with the Commission.

Another main request of the resolution is the establishment an EU Forest Observation, Reporting and Data Collection framework ("Forest Observatory"), in order to harmonise collection of comparable data across the EU Member States. Law enforcement authorities must be equipped with more resources and personnel, so that criminal proceedings against environmental crimes can be more effective. And environmental activists, whistleblowers, staff responsible for forest management and investigative journalists need better protection, MEPs said.

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