

EPPO: Path to Operation



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News

On 28 September 2020, European Chief Prosecutor *Laura Kövesi* and the other 22 European Prosecutors (Mr *Frédéric Baab* (FR), Mr *Cătălin-Laurențiu Borcoman* (RO), Mr *Jaka Brezigar* (SI), Mr *Danilo Ceccarelli* (IT), Mr *Gatis Doniks* (LV), Ms *Yvonne Farrugia* (MT), Ms *Teodora Georgieva* (BG), Ms *Daniëlle Goudriaan* (NL), Mr *José Eduardo Guerra* (PT), Mr *Petr Klement* (CZ), Mr *Tomas Krušna* (LT), Ms *Tamara Laptoš* (HR), Ms *Katerina Loizou* (CY), Ms *Ingrid Maschl-Clausen* (AT), Mr *Juraj Novocký* (SK), Mr *Andrés Ritter* (DE), Ms *Maria Concepción Sabadell Carnicero* (ES), Mr *Gabriel Seixas* (LU), Ms *Kristel Siitam-Nyiri* (EE), Mr *Harri Tiesmaa* (FI), Mr *Yves Van Den Berge* (BE) and Mr *Dimitrios Zimianitis* (EL)) [took their oaths of office](#) before the European Court of Justice. Both the President of the ECJ, *Koen Lenaerts*, and *Kövesi* emphasised at the formal sitting that the European Public Prosecutor's Office takes its task seriously as an independent European institution for enforcing justice and the rule of law. The European Public Prosecutor's Office was established in 2017 to prosecute crimes against the EU budget. *Laura Kövesi* was appointed Chief Prosecutor in October 2019. After the remaining European Prosecutors have been appointed in July 2020 ([euclid 2/2020, 82](#)), the delegated European Public Prosecutors still have to be recruited in the 22 participating Member States.

Meanwhile, the College adopted the first [decisions](#). These include the important [internal rules of procedure](#) as well as rules concerning the processing of personal data by the EPPO. In 11 November 2020, the German and Italian European Prosecutors, *Andrés Ritter* and *Danilo Ceccarelli* were [appointed](#) Deputy European Chief Prosecutor. Their mandate period is 3 years. The two deputies will assist the European Chief Prosecutor in the performance of her duties and represent her in her absence or when she is prevented from attending to her duties.

On 14 October 2020, the Commission presented a [Delegated Regulation concerning the data to be processed](#) by the European Public Prosecutor's Office. The Regulation provides for the categories of persons and data listed in the Annex to the Regulation to be admitted as data subjects and as possible data to be processed in accordance with Art. 49(3) of Regulation 2017/1939 establishing the EPPO. The annex refers to the suspected or accused persons in the criminal proceedings of the EPPO and the convicted persons following the criminal proceedings of the EPPO, as well as their contacts or associates. It also covers the natural persons who reported or are victims of offences that fall within the competence of the EPPO. The Annex also lists in detail the categories of operational data that may be processed for the defined data subjects.

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