

JIT Against Foreign Terrorist Fighters Leads to Convictions



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News

On 15 April 2025, Eurojust [presented an interim evaluation](#) of a Joint Investigation Team (JIT) into crimes against Ezidi victims in Syria and Iraq.

In 2021, the judicial authorities of Sweden and France set up the JIT, supported by Eurojust, which Belgium and other countries later joined. The JIT had been set up to identify foreign terrorist fighters (FTFs) with links to the [jihadi group ISIL](#) (Islamic State of Iraq and Syria, also known as Da'esh), who had returned from Syria or Iraq and were involved in core international crimes, primarily against Ezidi victims.

As a result of the JIT's work, in 2024, a Dutch citizen was identified and sentenced to ten years' imprisonment for crimes against humanity. A Swedish citizen was sentenced in 2025 to 12 years' imprisonment for genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes committed against nine Ezidi victims. In 2026, a French citizen might be tried on charges of genocide and crimes against humanity.

Although the United Nations Investigative Team to Promote Accountability for Crimes Committed by Da'esh/ Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (UNITAD), which provided important information to the JIT, was closed down in September 2024, the work of the JIT will continue. Based on the principle of universal jurisdiction, EU Member States can investigate core international crimes committed outside their own territory.

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