



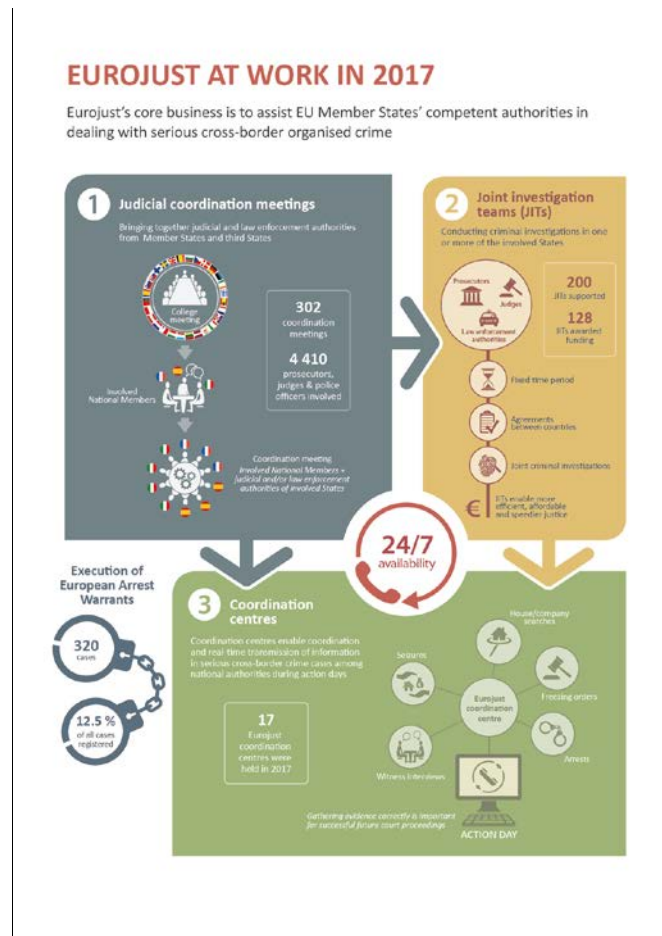
Eurojust Basic Q & A

Eurojust: a one-stop shop for fighting cross-border crime through judicial coordination and cooperation

What are we?

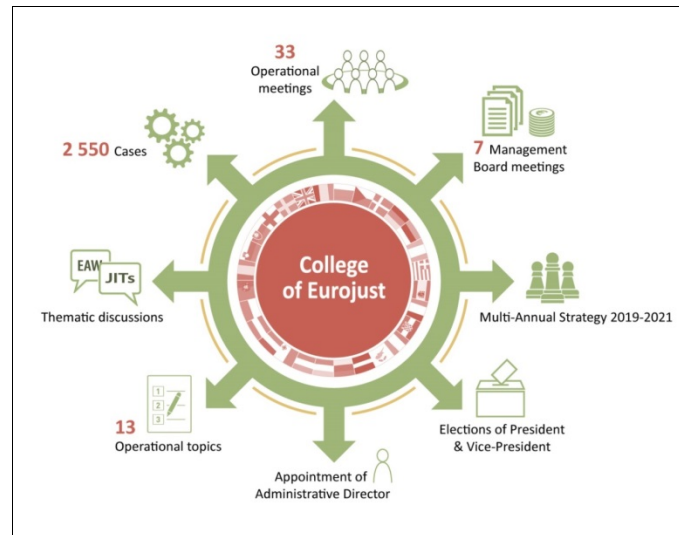
Eurojust is the European Union's Judicial Cooperation Unit, established by Council Decision of 28 February 2002, to stimulate and improve the coordination of investigations and prosecutions and the cooperation between the competent authorities of the Member States in relation to serious cross-border crime, particularly when it is organised. (The Eurojust Council Decision of 28 February 2002 setting up Eurojust, with a few to reinforcing the fight against serious crime, was last amended by Council Decision 2009/426/JHA of 16 December 2008 on the strengthening of Eurojust.)

At the request of a Member State, Eurojust may also assist investigation and prosecutions concerning a particular Member State and a non-Member State if a cooperation agreement has been signed or an essential interest in providing such assistance is present.



Who are we?

The College of Eurojust is composed of 28 National Members, based in The Hague, who are prosecutors and judges seconded by each Member State. Liaison Prosecutors from Norway, Switzerland, the USA and Montenegro are also currently posted at Eurojust.



How do we operate?

Eurojust's key roles and powers include responding to requests for assistance from the competent national authorities of the Member States. Eurojust can also request Member States to undertake investigations or prosecutions. National Members carry out Eurojust's mandate to **coordinate the work of the national authorities at every stage of criminal investigation and prosecution**. Eurojust's three major judicial cooperation tools are **coordination meetings, coordination centres** and **joint investigation teams**.

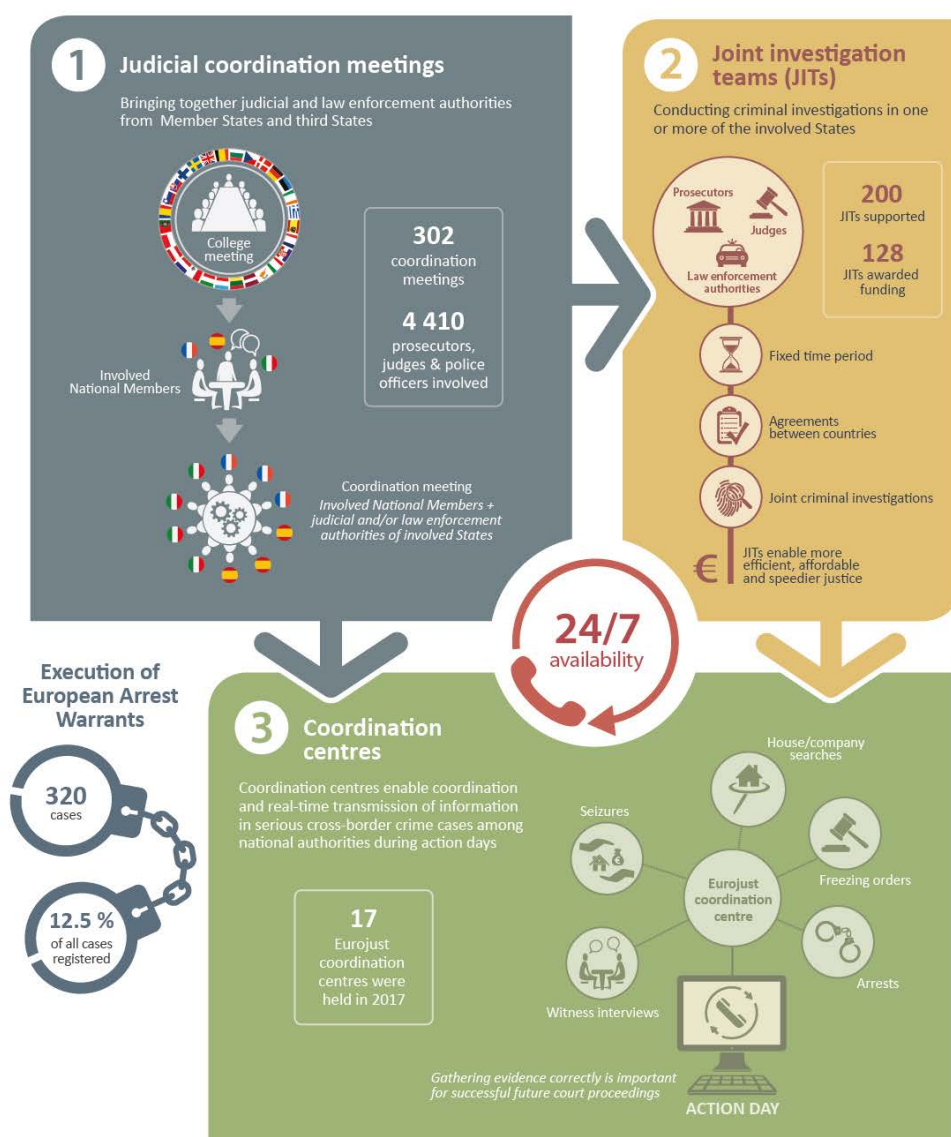
National Members and Liaison Prosecutors meet bilaterally and in **coordination meetings** with relevant national authorities to try to resolve ongoing judicial coordination issues. Action days are coordinated via **coordination centres** held at Eurojust for real-time exchange of information and creation of on-the-spot strategies in response to changes occurring on the ground with arrests, searches and seizures.



Eurojust hosts the secretariats of the **European Judicial Network**, the **JITs Network** and the **Genocide Network**, and provides logistical support to the European Judicial Cybercrime Network and the Consultative Forum of Prosecutors General.

EUROJUST AT WORK IN 2017

Eurojust's core business is to assist EU Member States' competent authorities in dealing with serious cross-border organised crime



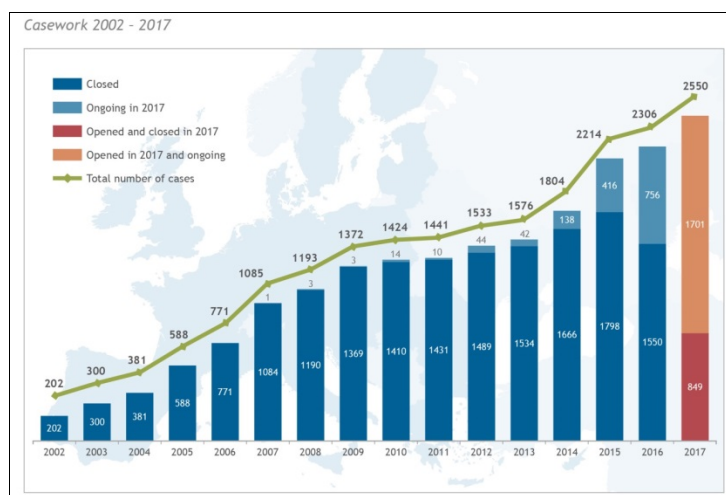
What crime types are handled by Eurojust?

The main crime types dealt with by Eurojust are fraud, drug trafficking and money laundering. Eurojust has also stepped up its activities in fighting terrorism (87 cases in 2017, including the attacks in Berlin, Paris and Brussels), cybercrime, migrant smuggling and trafficking in human beings.

Crime type	Cases			Coordination meetings			JITs		
	2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017
Terrorism	41	67	87	15	18	14	3	4	12
Cybercrime	62	60	70	19	13	9	11	8	7
Migrant smuggling	60	65	64	20	12	15	9	11	14
THB	79	93	132	32	33	57	21	32	51
Fraud	647	654	700	76	44	75	34	35	45
Corruption	90	74	61	10	15	15	4	2	4
Drug trafficking	274	254	324	57	41	40	25	24	28
Mobile organised crime group	201	199	208	21	19	14	13	12	12
PIF crimes	69	41	61	11	11	14	5	5	6
Money laundering	283	295	315	55	67	85	30	35	45
Environmental crime	5	6	9	1	0	3	0	0	2

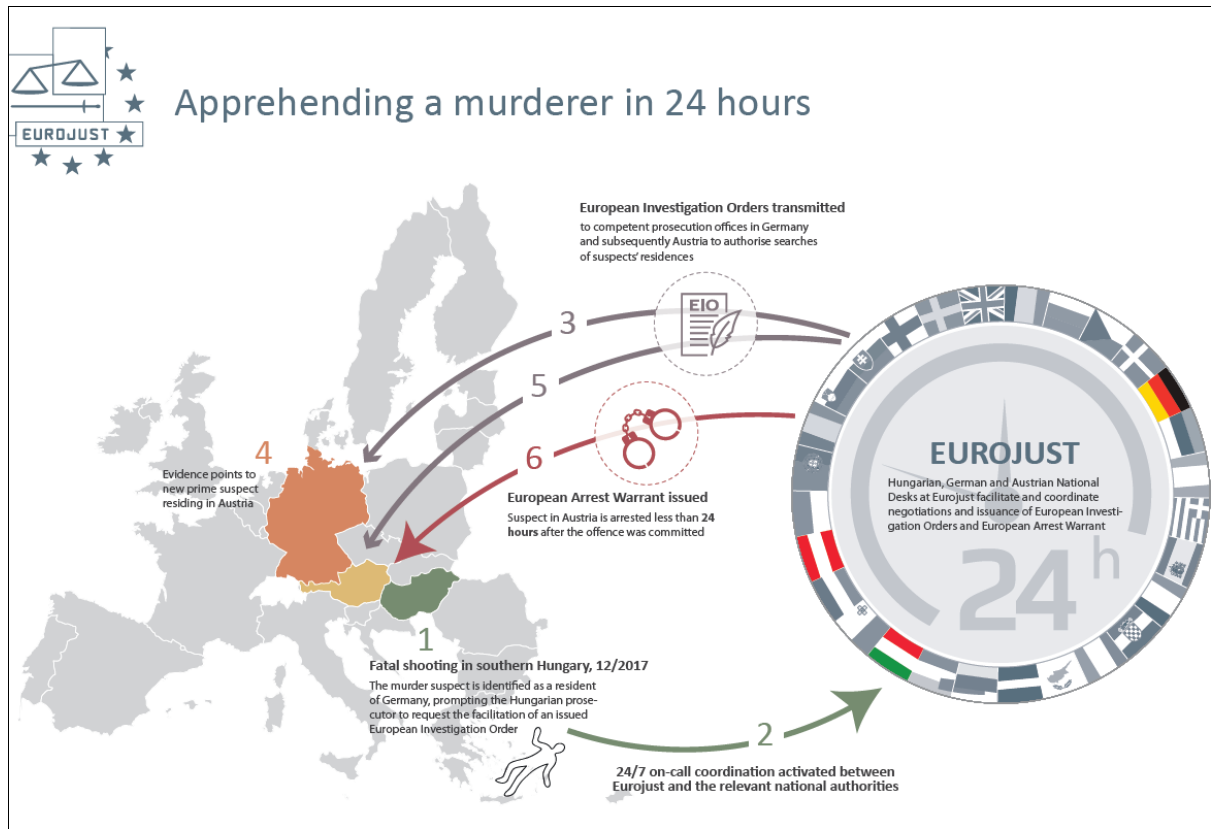
What is Eurojust's caseload?

In 2017, Eurojust handled 4 125 cases, including 2 698 new cases (2 550 cases registered and dealt with at Level II meetings), an increase of more than 10 per cent compared to the previous year.



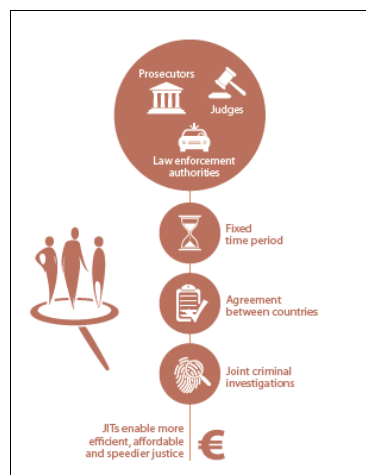
Is Eurojust available 24/7?

Via On-Call Coordination (OCC), Eurojust National Desks can be reached 24 hours per day, 7 days per week for urgent requests. An example of such coordination is shown below:

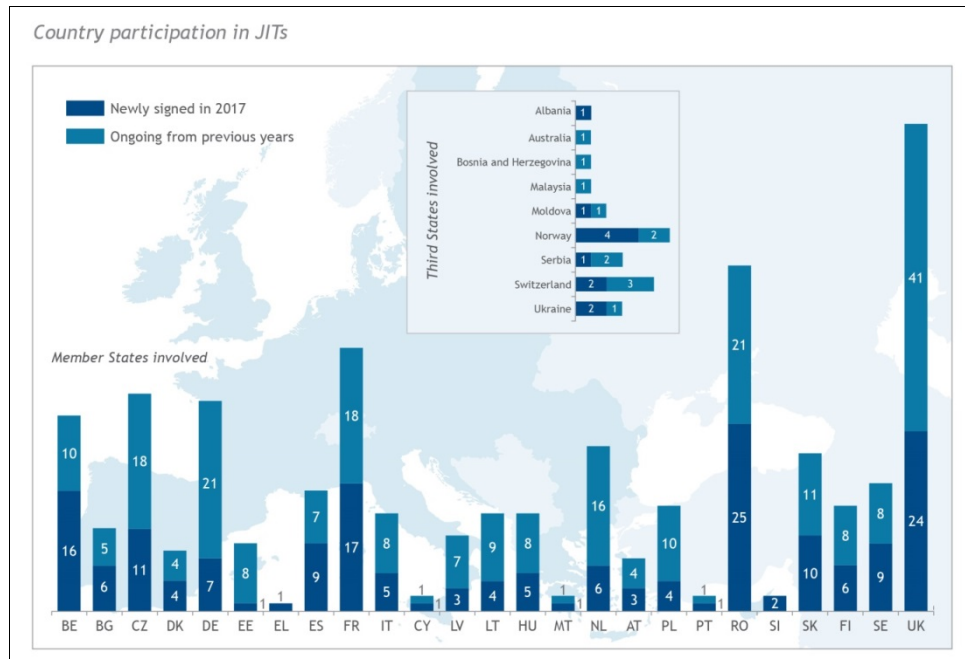


Joint investigation teams

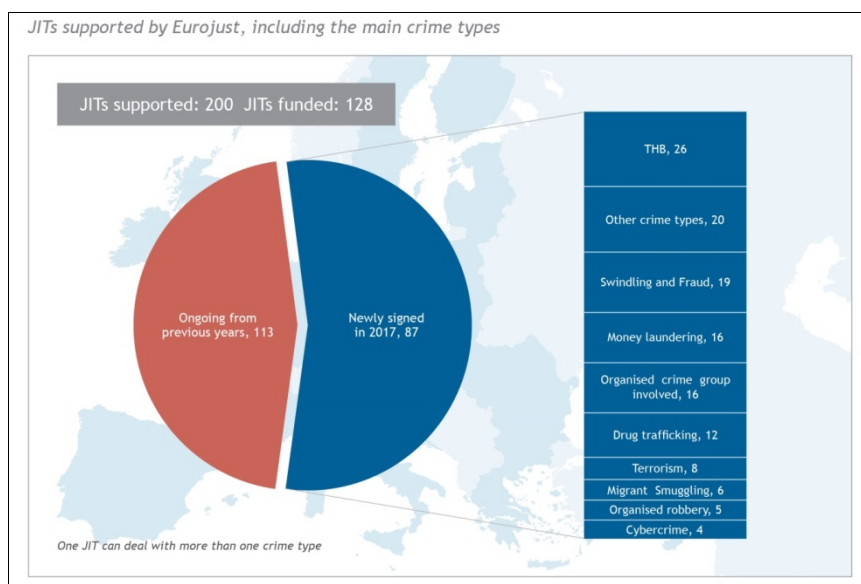
Joint investigation teams (JITs) are very effective in cross-border cases. A JIT is an international cooperation tool based on an agreement between competent authorities - both judicial (judges, prosecutors, investigative judges) and law enforcement - of two or more States, established for a limited duration and for a specific purpose, to carry out criminal investigations in one or more of the involved States. JITs facilitate the coordination of investigations and prosecutions conducted in parallel in several States or in cases with a cross-border dimension. Eurojust can provide advice on whether to form a JIT, and also in drafting the JIT agreement.



Since 2009, Eurojust has been providing financial and logistical support to the operational activities of JITs. The objective of this funding programme is to promote the setting up of JITs by reducing the impact on national budgets of costs incurred due to the transnational dimension of these cases, ensuring that financial and other organisational constraints do not hinder the establishment and operational needs of JITs. Eurojust can reimburse costs incurred by Member States and by third States involved in a JIT.

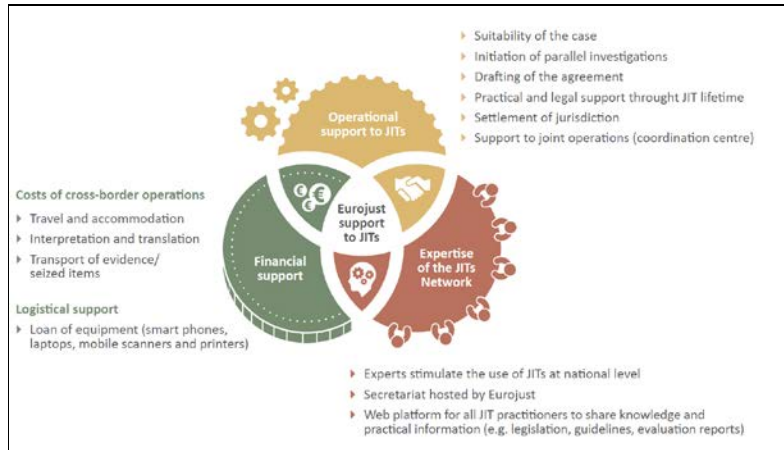


In 2017, Eurojust provided EUR 1.31 million in funding to JITs. In just the first five months of 2018 (January through May), EUR 949 963 was awarded, and 156 JITs were supported. Most cases with JIT agreements concern the involvement of organised crime groups, trafficking in human beings, drug trafficking and money laundering.



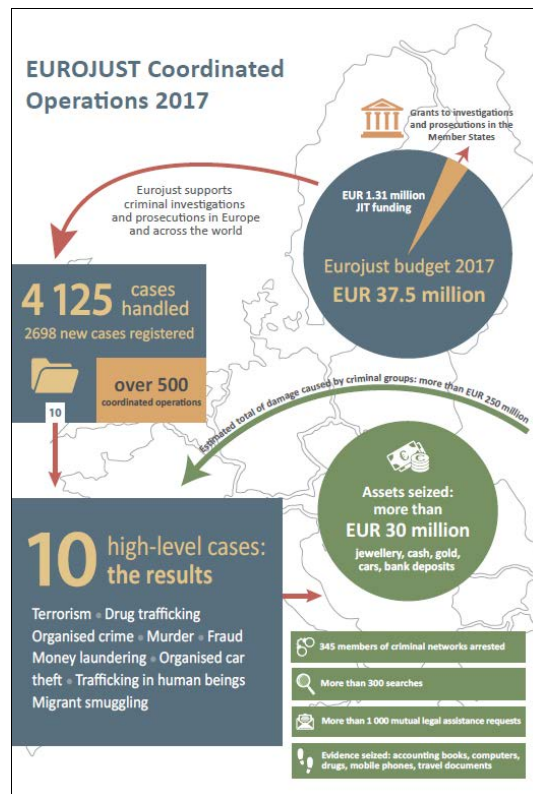
The Network of National Experts on Joint Investigation Teams (JITs Network) was established in July 2005. Since mid-January 2011, the JITs Network has a Secretariat, hosted by Eurojust, which promotes the activities of the JITs Network and supports the National Experts in their work. The objective of the JITs Network, consisting of at least one National Expert per Member

State, is to facilitate the work of practitioners. The JITs Network primarily encourages the use of JITs, facilitates their setting up, and contributes to the sharing of experience and best practice. The National Experts are primarily representatives from law enforcement, prosecutorial and/or judicial authorities of the Member States. Institutional bodies such as Eurojust, Europol, OLAF, the European Commission and the Council of the EU have also appointed contact points to the JITs Network.



Can you report any notable successes?

Damages caused by organised criminal groups in the European Union in 2017 are estimated to amount to more than EUR 250 million. Thanks in part to the efforts of Eurojust, more than EUR 30 million in assets was seized in over 300 searches, more than 1 000 mutual legal assistance requests were facilitated, and 345 members of criminal networks were arrested.



Eurojust has been involved in the judicial response to the terrorist attacks occurring in Europe, as well as the Panama Papers case, the FIFA and Uzbekistan corruption cases, the MH17 investigation, BlackShades, Silk Road, and many high-profile migrant smuggling cases.

What is the difference between Eurojust and Europol?

Eurojust deals with judicial cooperation among prosecutors and magistrates. Europol deals with police cooperation. In most national judicial systems, an investigation is started and led by a magistrate, who also supervises the work of law enforcement. A case can be opened by Eurojust, and Europol can be asked to contribute their analytical expertise (see, e.g., the NotPetya cybercrime case of 2017).

Is Eurojust active beyond the EU's borders?

Eurojust can cooperate formally with third States with which it has signed cooperation agreements (currently nine third States). Eurojust provided support in 258 cases that involved 48 third States, and has contact points in 42 third States.



For further information:

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