

What is a JIT?

A joint investigation team (JIT) is a team consisting of judges, prosecutors and law enforcement authorities of several States, established for a fixed period and a specific purpose by way of a written agreement, to carry out criminal investigations in one or more of the involved States.

The possibility of setting up JITs between Member States is provided for in Article 13 of the Convention on Mutual Legal Assistance between the Member States of the European Union adopted on 29 May 2000, and in the Framework Decision of 13 June 2002. It is now also foreseen by other international instruments so that under certain conditions, non-EU States can join a JIT.

Each side appoints the persons - investigators and magistrates - who will act as JIT members, as well as a JIT leader, in charge of supervising JIT activities when it operates on the territory of the concerned State.

JITs enable the direct gathering and exchange of information and evidence without the need to use traditional channels of mutual legal assistance (MLA). In addition, “seconded members” of the team (i.e. those originating from another State than the one on the territory of which the JIT operates) are entitled to be present and to take part - within the limits foreseen by national legislation - in investigative measures carried out outside their State of origin. They constitute an efficient and effective cooperation tool, which facilitates coordination of investigation and prosecution conducted in parallel in several countries.

What types of costs does Eurojust reimburse?

Through this funding programme, Eurojust intends to promote the setting up of JITs by reducing the impact

on national budgets of costs incurred due to the transnational dimension of the case.

Eligible costs are :

- ▶ Transport and accommodation costs of JIT members (operational meetings between law enforcement/prosecutors, participation in investigative measures carried out by JIT members in another State involved in the JIT); and
- ▶ Interpretation and translation costs.

Since 2014, Eurojust can reimburse costs incurred not only by Member States but also by non-EU States parties to or participants in the JIT.

Eurojust has also made available laptops with secure connections, secure mobile telephones (communication costs included), mobile scanners and printers that may be loaned to JITs.

What are the main conditions of financial support?

Financial support can be awarded only to a JIT already signed.

Funded activities must be planned and carried out over periods of three months. Equipment is loaned for a maximum (renewable) duration of six months.

Repeat applications by the same JIT are possible. Each application should include needs of all States involved in the JIT, not of each partner separately. A maximum amount of EUR 50 000 may be awarded to each JIT for each three-month period.

For a JIT to be eligible, Eurojust National Members of Member States concerned shall have been invited to participate in its activities.

Eurojust only reimburses costs incurred (no pre-financing) by legal persons; advance payment cannot be made by JIT members themselves.

How to submit an application?

Eight “calls for proposals” - by which JITs are invited to submit their applications for funding - are published throughout the calendar year. Complete planning can be consulted on Eurojust’s website.

The application form may be downloaded on Eurojust’s website. It must be completed, signed and initialed either by JIT leaders jointly, by one of them, or, in case of unavailability, by a JIT member.

The application must reach Eurojust - by e-mail (or, in case of a technical problem, by post) - at the latest on the last day of the period indicated in each call for proposals, with several attachments (copy of the JIT agreement, including possible extensions, list of JIT members).

How to use awarded funds?

Each JIT is informed of the results of its application within 15 days of submission. The “action period” - during which operational activities must be carried out - begins the following day.

If certain activities must be postponed, a new application must be submitted in the framework of the next call for proposals. Funding may not be used for activities that are not described in the application.

After the expiry of the action period, each partner has one month to submit its reimbursement claim (available online), accompanied by supporting documents (invoices, proof of payment). Once the file is complete, payment is generally processed in a few days.

Contact:

The JITs Network Secretariat is in charge of the management of this funding programme.

For any additional query :

▶ Please consult:

<http://www.eurojust.europa.eu/Pages/home.aspx>
Section "Joint Investigation Teams" / Eurojust
JITs funding.

▶ E-mail jits@eurojust.europa.eu.



Financial support

to

Joint Investigation Teams (JITs)



JITs Secretariat

EUROJUST

Maanweg 174, 2516 AB The Hague, Netherlands
Phone: +31 70 412 5000 – Fax: +31 70 412 5005
E-mail: jitsnetworksecretariat@eurojust.europa.eu
Website: www.eurojust.europa.eu