

Preparatory work (agenda)

Annual meeting of Heads of the JHA agencies, 20 November 2020

Introduction

The annual meeting will take place on **Friday 20 November 2020** via videoconferencing. The meeting will be about 2 to 2.30 hrs, starting at 10.00.

The Heads of JHA already met earlier this year, on 9 July, when they discussed the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the work of the agencies. During that meeting, they shared their views on common areas of interest and possible joint activities. The common areas were summarized as follows:

- Common interest, current and future challenges - what technology, innovation and digitalisation concerns
- Consider common crisis response, including coordinated security measures
- Strengthen cooperation to mainstream human rights and fundamental rights in our work
- Enhance capacity building and joint analytical work, also in view of the economic crisis in EU
- Improve business continuity plans and resilience of our organisations
- More joint procurement initiatives
- Exchange on teleworking policies

The Heads concluded that this network/platform should explore these ideas in upcoming months and discuss already **digitalisation** at the annual meeting in November.

Meeting of the CPs - 23-24 Sept – Outcome & follow up

- The contact points (CPs) developed a list of 7 components of digitalisation on which the Heads could focus during their annual meeting.
- The CPs are recommending an ordering of the topics and suggest 1-3 topic(s) from the top 4 (see the list on page 2).
- Each CP will consult his/her Head of Agency in view of drafting the agenda for the annual meeting.

The questions are:

1. Which component(s) of digitalisation would you like to focus on?
 2. Would you prefer 1 component for all agencies or 2-3 components in which case we would divide the discussion in 2-3 clusters with 2-3 agencies per cluster.
 3. In case of clustering, which component(s) you would like to focus on?
- The approach should be a practical one. The agencies are invited to share their expertise, their experiences and products and/or case examples to demonstrate needs. The agencies should consider what they could offer. They should point out the challenges and opportunities. There will be a Tour the Table with approximately 5-7 minutes intervention per agency.
 - The CPs also recommend that the Heads of JHA agencies task the expert groups and other existing platform to look into certain aspects. It concerns:
 - JHA ICT & Cybersecurity expert group
 - JHA Training expert group
 - JHA group of DPOs
 - Innovation Hub for Internal Security

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- EUAN is already looking into certain areas, such as teleworking and joint procurement. Also in relation to Artificial Intelligence some work is conducted.
 - Frontex puts digitalisation as a topic on the agenda of the JHAAN 2021. The Heads of JHA agencies should identify areas for enhanced cooperation and agree on next steps for 2021 and beyond.
 - CPs will meet on 7 October 2020 to agree on the agenda.
 - **List of components:**
 1. **Artificial Intelligence (AI)** - focus on core business of the agencies (fits as a single topic)
Note: verify what is done within in the EUAN; SSO to provide more information; verify COSI discussions on AI.
 2. **Joint web platforms for meetings and secure video-communication**
In this context also:
 - Secure video-communication/conferencing tools for up to RESTRICTED content
 - EUCI and electronic signature. Possibly, these 2 topics could already be taken up by the ICT & cybersecurity expert group (still to meet in 2020).
 3. **Exchange information in a secure way amongst JHA agencies**
 4. **Digital capacity building, training tools and innovative learning**
In this context also mentioned: recruitment and conducting interviews (EASO). Recruitment, possibly, taken up by EUAN.
 5. **Cybersecurity**
 6. **Innovation**
 7. **Interactive platforms, cooperation with the networks**

LINKS

Digitalisation of justice: Two new studies on digital criminal justice and the use of innovative technology

In the context of ongoing work on the digitalisation of justice in the EU, the European Commission has published on 14 Sept two studies on digital criminal justice and the use of innovative technologies in the justice field. The study on [digital criminal justice](#) suggests concrete actions to address current deficiencies in this area. The study on [the use of innovative technologies](#) focuses on the use of Artificial Intelligence and innovative technologies in accessing justice, and concludes that better coordination of efforts and activities are needed at EU-level, as research has shown that there are numerous projects in the Member States with similar objectives, problems and technologies.

The findings of both studies will feed into the upcoming Communication on digitalisation of justice, Dec 2021.