

2nd JHAAN meeting, 21 June 2021

TOUR DE TABLE - DG JUST

1. The Justice Council on 7 June 2021

This was the first formal meeting of the Justice and Home Affairs Council since December 2019. During the Justice session, the Council reached general approaches on

- the regulation on assignments of claims,
- the regulation on e-Codex system and amending Regulation 2018/1726 (e-CODEX) and
- **the regulation amending the regulation establishing the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights.**

The Council further adopted conclusions on the protection of vulnerable adults.

Justice Ministers held a policy debate on Combating illegal content online in the context of the Digital Services Act proposal and an exchange of views on the key elements for the public prosecution services.

The working lunch focussed on the Schrems II judgement. The Commission informed Ministers on the strategies on the Rights on the Child and Organised Crime and Trafficking.

2. CERV and Justice Programmes adopted on 27.4.2021

The EP gave its final approval for two new funding programmes: the Justice programme and the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values (CERV) programme. **The budget for both amounts to €1.8 billion for 2021-2027, making it the largest ever amount of EU funding dedicated to promoting Union values of democracy, rule of law and fundamental rights in the EU.**

The Justice Programme, with a budget of €305 million, focusses on judicial cooperation, judicial training and facilitating access to justice.

The Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme, 1.55 billion aims to protect and promote rights and values as enshrined in the EU Treaties and the Charter of Fundamental Rights. Funding will be available to civil society organisations on European, national and local level, as well as equality bodies, municipalities and other stakeholders. The funding will support civil society action ranging from fighting racism and gender-based violence to promoting equality, the rule of law and citizens' participation in democracy.

3. Commission appoints the first ever Anti-racism coordinator in May to prevent and combat racism in Michaela Mouna

4. Victims Rights Platform - ad hoc meeting - 10 June 2021

Four of the JHA agencies are now involved in a common action under the EU Strategy on Victims' Rights 2020-2025: 3 of the Agencies (the ones under the chaperon of DG JUST: Eurojust, FRA and EIGE) will report on methods of improving cooperation and coordination between the competent authorities in cross-border cases in the 1st half of 2022. CEPOL, an agency under the chaperon of DG HOME also assisted the meeting and stressed its role in the promotion and distribution of the report among the law enforcement bodies. The European Network on Victims rights will support the endeavour of the agencies towards the elaboration of the report.

5. **EU Digital COVID Certificate: EU Gateway goes live with seven countries one month ahead of deadline - 1 June 2021**

The EU gateway (=the technical backbone of the EU systems for an EU Digital Covid Certificate) was set-up by T-Systems and SAP and is hosted at the Commission's data centre in Luxembourg. It allows to verify the digital signatures contained in the QR codes of all certificates without the processing of personal data. The signature keys needed for this verification are stored on servers at national level; through the gateway, these keys can be accessed by national verification apps or systems all across the EU. This will allow citizens and authorities to be sure that the certificates are authentic. The Commission also developed reference software and apps for the issuance, storage and verification of certificates, to facilitate the roll-out at national level; these are published on GitHub and used by 12 Member States.

The EU certificate was proposed by the Commission to resume safe travelling this summer. It will be free of charge, secure and accessible to all. Available in digital format or on paper, it will be a proof that a person has been vaccinated against COVID-19, tested negative, or recovered from an infection. The DCC Regulation was published in the Official Journal on 15 June 2021 and will be applicable as of 1 July 2021.

6. **EPPO launched on 1 June 2021**

This opens a new chapter in fighting cross-border crime. The first supranational prosecution service is launching its operations to protect the EU taxpayer's money, competent to investigate and prosecute crimes like money laundering, corruption and cross-border VAT fraud.

The EPPO is not a decentralised agency. It is an office, and in line with the COM's LS a body sui generis.

7. **Fit for 55 package - scheduled for adoption/presentation by the College of the European Commission on 14 July 2021**

The European Commission will present the "Fit for 55" legislative package. This will include measures to reduce emissions by at least 55 percent by 2030 compared to 1990 levels.

- Revision of the EU Emission Trading System, including revision of the EU ETS Directive concerning aviation, maritime and CORSIA
- Revision of the Regulation on the inclusion of greenhouse gas emissions and removals from land use, land use change and forestry (LULUCF)
- Effort Sharing Regulation
- Amendment to the Renewable Energy Directive to implement the ambition of the new 2030 climate target
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- ReFuelEU Aviation - sustainable aviation fuels
- FuelEU Maritime - green European maritime space
- Revision of the Directive on deployment of the alternative fuels infrastructure
- Amendment of the Regulation setting CO2 emission standards for cars and vans
- Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism
- Revision of the Energy Tax Directive
- Digital levy
- Proposal for an own resources decision