



European Judicial Network: A pioneer in networking judicial authorities to fight transnational crime

EJTN meeting “Networks aiming to facilitate judicial cooperation in criminal and civil matters between judicial authorities”, Duisburg, 27-28 June 2011

Networking judicial authorities

- The need of setting up networks of contact persons competent for judicial cooperation has appeared as a natural consequence of the opening of the borders within the European Union.
- The mutual recognition and direct contact principles established at the Tampere European Council from 15-16 October 1999 as the corner stone of the European judicial cooperation have further emphasized the role of such networks.

The beginning

- The idea of setting up a network of contact points to facilitate judicial cooperation is directly linked to the evolution of the area of freedom, security and justice.
- Thus, by the Joint Action 98/428 JHA of 29 June 1998, in order to fulfil recommendation n°21 of the Action Plan to Combat Organised Crime adopted by the Council on 28 April 1997, it was created the European Judicial Network (EJN).
- It was a Belgian initiative and it was officially inaugurated on 25 September 1998 by the Austrian Minister of Justice acting as the Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

EJN: A pioneer in judicial networking

- EJN is a pioneer in networking judicial authorities in fighting serious crime.
- According to the original Joint Action and also to the Council Decision 2009/976/JHA of 16 December 2008, which repealed the Joint Action, the EJN is composed of Contact Points, appointed by each MS, as “*active intermediaries*” in order to facilitate judicial cooperation in criminal matters
- Beyond the legal texts, the EJN is a community of judges, prosecutors, officials from the Central Authorities, strongly committed to put their experience in the benefit of the European judicial cooperation in criminal matters

EJN: AS INFORMAL AS EFFICIENT

- EJN does not have legal personality.
- However, EJN is present everywhere in the EU MS, candidate countries, as well as in Switzerland and Norway.
- EJN has its own soul and it is an important voice in the European judicial area towards an European judicial culture.

EJN = A success story

- The success of the EJN as an horizontal and flexible “structure” is uncontestable
- More than 12 years later what continues to make it truly UNIQUE is the **HUMAN FACTOR**.
- EJN became a model for other networks created not only in Europe, but all over the world.

Meetings

- The EJN holds two plenary meetings, hosted by the MS which acts as the Presidency of the EU JHA Council, and one meeting in February, every year.
- As provided for in the new EJN Decision, at least one meeting of the National Correspondents (former IWG meetings) and one meeting of the “tool correspondents” are also organised every year.



Daily work: EJN is Operational

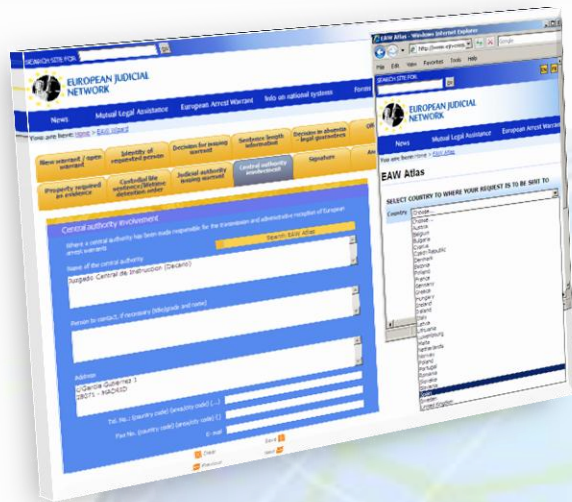


- The meetings of the CPs are only the “EJN fora” for debates and decisions. The real life of the EJN consists in the daily activities of the Contact Points in their own countries, to facilitate the judicial cooperation in criminal matters between the MS
- The Contact Points offer their experience and expertise to their national or foreign colleagues ensuring the effectiveness of the bilateral cooperation.



The EJM Secretariat

- ✓ The EJM Secretariat is the administrative body of the European Judicial Network (article 2 of the EJM Decision).
- ✓ The EJM Secretariat is an **autonomous** and separate unit of the Eurojust administration (paragraphs 19 and 20 from the Preamble of the Council Decision on the strengthening of Eurojust and article 25a of the Eurojust Decision).
- Conclusion: **the EJM Secretariat has a dual role. It is not a regular unit of Eurojust, since it is responsible for the administration of an independent network and accountable before more than 300 EJM Contact Points.**



The EJN's Tools

- EJN has developed interesting and very useful e-tools, which may be considered one of the most important legacies of the network.
- These tools are used not only by the Contact Points, but also by the judicial authorities from all the MS.
- The EJN IT tools are composed of the List of Contact Points, the Legal Instruments, the Fiches Belges, the European Judicial Atlas (commonly known as the Atlas), the EAW Atlas, the Compendium, the EAW Wizard and the Forms section.



The EUROPEAN JUDICIAL ATLAS

ATLAS, Requests for Mutual Legal Assistance

The Atlas allows the identification of the locally competent authority that can receive your request for mutual legal assistance and provides a fast and efficient channel for the direct transmission of requests according with the selected measure.

Note: It doesn't constitute an exhaustive listing of all possible channels.

[MLA Atlas](#) > SELECT THE MATTER O

SELECT COUNTRY TO WHERE YOUR REQUEST IS TO BE SENT TO

Country

SELECT THE MATTER OF CRIME

- General regime
- Special crimes
- Serious economic and financial crimes

The European Judicial Atlas is a dynamic IT tool which provides details of the competent authorities for implementing requests for judicial cooperation and which simultaneously takes into account various types of data: geographic area, judicial organisation, type of crime, type of measure required and the applicable international instruments.

More about EJN?

If you would like to know more about us, [visit this section](#).

EJN Brochure

[Find here the EJN Brochure](#) in all EU official languages

Feedback

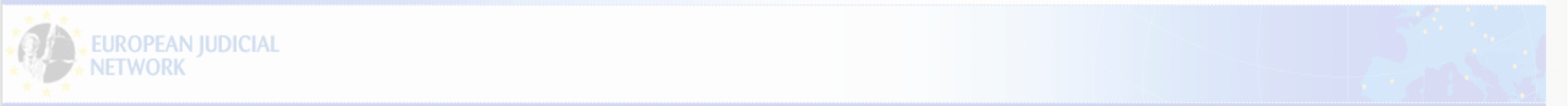
Interested to placement of contents, user interface please visit the [Feedback and Questions](#) section.

Need assistance?

For questions, comments or suggestions please use the [Contact us](#) form.

Partners





COMPENDIUM

You are here: [Home](#) > [Compendium](#)

Check MLA possibility	New letter/open letter	Requesting authority	Requested authority	Persons concerned	Urgency/Confidentiality	Applied conventions	Help
Facts and legal qualification	Requested activity	Special formalities	Other authorities involved	Annexes	Acknowledgement of receipt	Video conference	Language management

Save

Create a new letter

Language: English

Create

Or open a letter

Open file

Open

If you want to create a new rogatory letter, you need to:

1. choose the language in which you wish to work
2. click the button create
3. define a name for the file
4. click the button create

If you want to open an existing rogatory letter, you need to:

1. click the button open
2. click the button open



SEARCH SITE FOR go



The EAW ATLAS

You are here: [Home](#) > [EAW Atlas](#)

EAW Atlas

Select Country:

Select District:

Select Region:

Select Sub-region:

Select Locality:

Enter ZipCode/Postcode:

Time Limits

Time limit after the arrest: **40 days.**

Languages Accepted

This Member State accepts European Arrest Warrants in German and all other official languages of issuing Member States that accept European arrest warrants in German.

Competent Receiving and Executing Authorities

Click on the underlined column headings to sort the data.

Authority Name	Address	City/Town	Postcode	Phone	Fax	Email
Generalstaatsanwaltschaft Bamberg	Wilhelmsplatz 1	Bamberg	96047	(+49) 951 833 - 0	(+49) 951 833 - 1440	poststelle@gensta-ba.bayern.de
Generalstaatsanwaltschaft Berlin	Eißholzstraße 30 - 33	Berlin	10781	(+49) 30 9015-0	(+49) 30 9015-2704	poststelle@gsta.berlin.de
Generalstaatsanwaltschaft des Landes Brandenburg	Kirchhofstraße 1 - 2	Brandenburg an der Havel	14776	(+49) 3381 295-200	(+49) 3381 295-209	vorzgstabrbb@bb.sta.brandenburg.de
Generalstaatsanwaltschaft Braunschweig	Domplatz 1	Braunschweig	38100	(+49) 531 488-0	(+49) 531 488-1414	poststelle@gsta-bs.niedersachsen.de
Generalstaatsanwaltschaft Bremen	Richtweg 16 - 22	Bremen	28195	(+49) 421 361-4267	(+49) 421 361-4081	office@genstaatsanw.bremen.de



The EAW Atlas is a dynamic tool that allows the practitioners to have all the details they need to draft and send a European Arrest Warrant. The search can be done by country, region, sub-region, locality or postcode. The Atlas shows the time limit in which the receipt of the EAW is mandatory after the arrest of the person, the languages accepted by each countries, the addresses, phone, faxes of the competent receiving and execution authorities as well as of those competent in specific cases (such as transit or urgent cases).

More about EJN?

If you would like to know more about us, [visit this section.](#)

EJN Brochure

Find the EAW Brochure in all EU official languages

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Find your contact details or [Contact us](#)

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The EAW Compendium (Wizard)

New warrant / open warrant	Identity of requested person	Decision for issuing warrant	Sentence length information	Decision in absentia – legal guarantees	Offences	Other circumstances	Help
Property required as evidence	Custodial life sentence/lifetime detention order	Judicial authority issuing warrant	Central authority involvement	Signature	Annexes	Language management	Save

Create a new arrest warrant

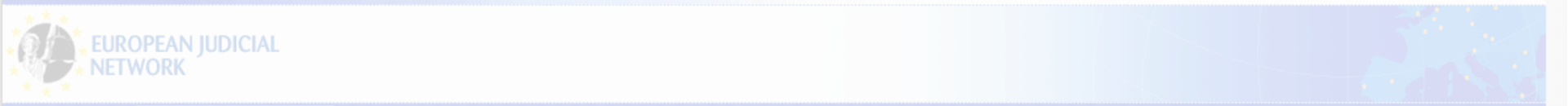
- The EAW Wizard is a tool which allows the judicial authorities to create and fill an EAW form.
- It has a facility which provide translation of the general part in the language accepted by the Executing State.

Open

Next

Before the forms can be filled a warrant must be created. To create a new arrest warrant first select your language and click 'Create' (or similar link in chosen language), an alert box will pop up informing that a new arrest warrant has been created. To open a previously saved warrant click on the 'Browse' button and locate the file on your local file system then click 'Open'. An alert box will pop up informing that a warrant was opened successfully.





You are here: [Home](#) > [Fiches Belges](#)

Fiches belges

Table listing all mutual assistance possibilities

Open the [summary table](#) to have an overview of the status of all measures in each country.

Search and Browse Fiches Belges

Find fiches belges concerning the following countries:

Warning: The information you will find in the 'Fiches' has indicative value only; it does not have binding judicial value in the context of a legal procedure.

CHOOSE MEASURE...

- The so called “Fiches belges” represent the first EJN tool.
- It contains basic information on the legislation and procedure for judicial cooperation in criminal matters within the 27 E.U. Member States.

More about EJN?

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EJN Brochure

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Need help?

For questions related to placement of... face please visit the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) section.

Need to talk to us?

For all questions, comments or suggestions, please use the [Contact us](#) form.

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12 years of EJM: looking into the Past and focusing in the Future

- **“Madeira Meeting”**: celebration of the EJM’s 10th Anniversary took place in Madeira, Portugal on October 13, 2008
 - The EJM presented itself to the world after 10 years of confidentiality under the slogan **“EJM Mutual Trust: can’t do without it!”**
 - The old and the future generation gathered to discuss about these 10 years of self construction and to examine the past and create our foundations for the Future.
 - Starting point to extend globally the reach of the EJM sharing this outcome with the leading institutions of the European Union and of the World
 - **“Madeira Declaration”**: important political document adopted and signed by the Justice Ministers of France, Belgium, Austria, Portugal, in representation of the other Member States.

Worldwide Networking



- **EJN - pioneer in global networking:**

- The creation of other Networks was based on the Matrix and principles of EJN
 - European Judicial Network in civil and commercial matters (created in 2001);
 - European Network of CPs in respect of persons responsible for genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes (created in 2002);
 - Ibered- Red Iberoamericana de Cooperación Jurídica Internacional (created in 2004);
 - Rede de Cooperação Jurídica e Judiciária Internacional dos Países de Língua Portuguesa (created in 2005);
 - SEEPAG- Southeast European Prosecutors Advisory Group (created in 2003);
 - CNCP-Commonwealth Network of Contact Persons (created in 2007).





Madeira Declaration

(Ilha da Madeira, 13 October 2008)

I – The participants of the Madeira meeting are delighted that the reflection process on the contribution that the European Judicial Network has made and will in the future make towards building an area of Freedom, Security and Justice was conducted during a meeting bringing together several partners.

This underlines the importance of networking between the institutions and the structures involved in the various aspects of judicial co-operation, with the aim of further sharing experiences and promoting good practices.

II – They acknowledge that the results of the EJN's activity have proven the importance of the Judicial Atlas and of the other practical instruments for judicial co-operation within the European Union that have been adopted by the EJN. These instruments have helped make co-operation more effective and meet the challenges posed by the admission of new Member States. Furthermore, the EJN has inspired projects carried out in other organisations, both within and outside the Union.

III – They stress the usefulness of the EJN's specific contribution, which is based on direct, informal and personal contacts and reinforced by the judicial and linguistic skills of the points of contact with regard to enhancing the effectiveness of judicial co-operation.

IV – They express their firm belief that the EJN should improve its co-operation with Eurojust while preserving its identity, which is founded on informal relationships and the proximity of the judicial authorities. Furthermore, reinforcing the complementary nature of these two players would optimise the use of their resources and contribute towards building the European judicial area.

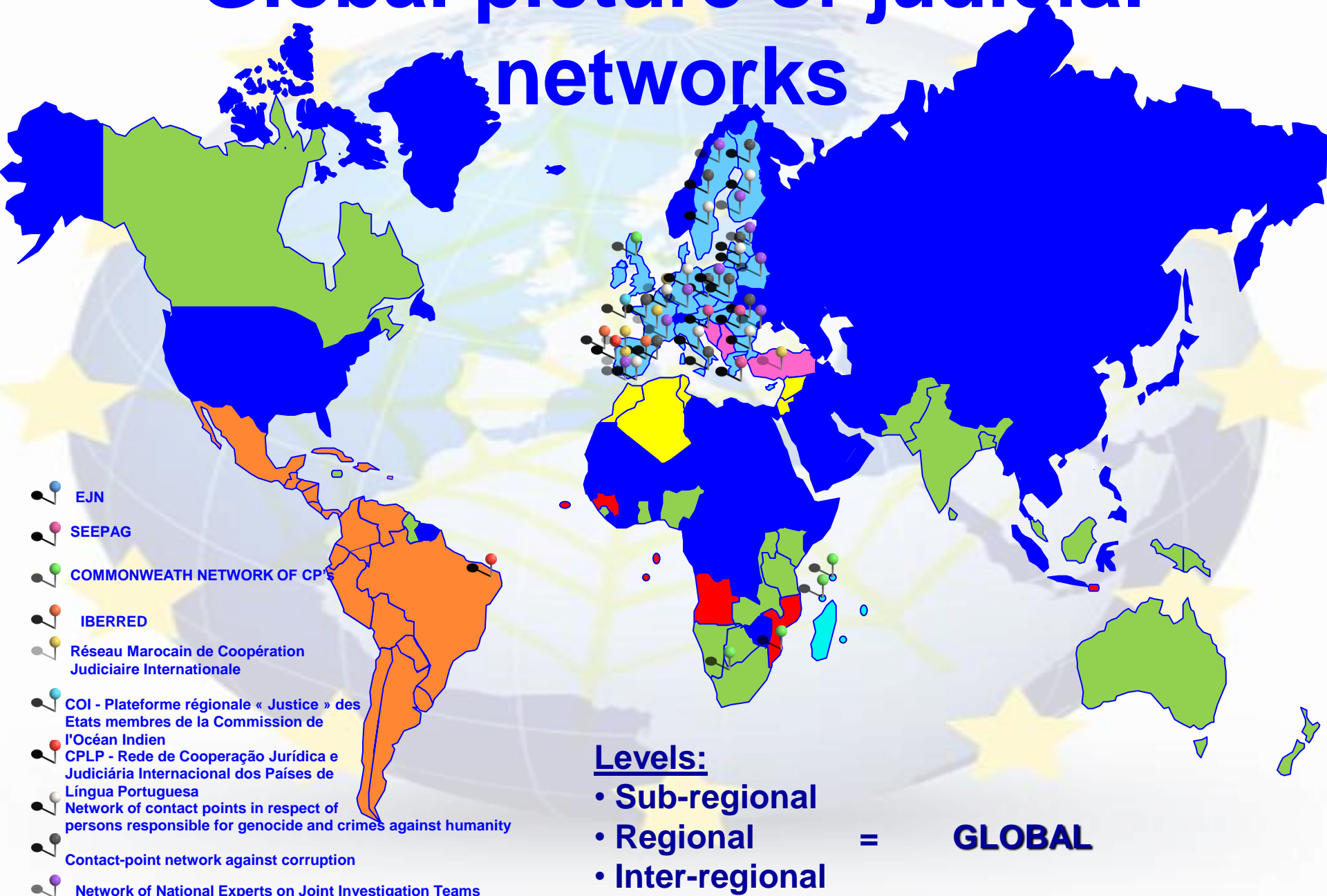
V – They are also convinced that continuing the work done by the EJN in partnership with other networks, not just at the European level, such as in the sphere of judicial training, but also within an international framework involving the other existing judicial networks, will promote a European and international judicial culture founded on the shared values affirmed by the Treaty on the European Union.

“They are also convinced that continuing the work done by the EJN in partnership with other networks, not just at the European level (...) but also within an international framework involving the other existing judicial networks, will promote a European and international judicial culture founded on the shared values affirmed by the Treaty on the European Union.”

In Point V of the Madeira Declaration

- Strengthening relations of cooperation with EJN with other networks either within Europe or relating to other continents: **a true Network of Networks.**
- **The need to support the interconnection between judicial cooperation in criminal matters networks was for the first time recognised at UN level by the conclusions of the 12th UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (Salvador de Bahia, 12-19 April 2010), where the EJN Secretary had an active participation.**
- The general conclusions of the UN Congress were concretised in the **Resolution 19/7 – “Strengthening of regional networks for international cooperation in criminal matters”**, adopted by the UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, at its 19th session, 17-21 May 2010

Global picture of judicial networks



- EJN
- SEEPAG
- COMMONWEALTH NETWORK OF CP's
- IBERRED
- Réseau Marocain de Coopération Judiciaire Internationale
- COI - Plateforme régionale « Justice » des Etats membres de la Commission de l'Océan Indien
- CPLP - Rede de Cooperação Jurídica Judiciária Internacional dos Países de Língua Portuguesa
- Network of contact points in respect of persons responsible for genocide and crimes against humanity
- Contact-point network against corruption
- Network of National Experts on Joint Investigation Teams

Levels:

- Sub-regional
 - Regional
 - Inter-regional
- = GLOBAL**

EJN – The second generation

- Once the Decision on the EJN, replacing the J.A. has entered into force, and with the new Eurojust Decision, we may speak of a second generation of the EJN.

Main innovations:

- National correspondents and the role of the National correspondents meeting as a veritable steering committee;
- ✓ Tool correspondents;
- Participation of the national correspondents and other EJN Contact Points in the future National Coordination System of Eurojust.



Challenges

- The main challenges for future of the EJM are:
 - Strengthening its position, keeping its flexible and horizontal approach (role and functions of the Secretariat, autonomy, resources);
 - Role of the EJM CPs within the future National Coordination System of Eurojust;
 - Development of the EJM website;
 - Secure Communication Network to become fully operational;
 - Deeper involvement of the Contact Points and of the Secretariat in the training of judges and prosecutors;
 - External actions.



PERSPECTIVES

- Maintaining its informal and horizontal organisation and its autonomy, EJM will have to become a major actor in the European Judicial Cooperation in criminal matters.
- Working closely with Eurojust, the EJM will consolidate its unique profile.
- Continuing to affirm itself as a regional network (within the E.U.) the EJM, due to its long experience and its unique characteristics of a profound level of integration based on Mutual Trust, is now ready to offer itself to the international justice as an interface between the several Regional Networks such as the EJM at a global level.

EJN website revised

The screenshot shows the homepage of the European Judicial Network (EJN) website. The header features the EU flag and the text "European Judicial Network (EJN) Réseau Judiciaire Européen (RJE)". Navigation links include "Useful links", "Supported browsers", "Sitemap", "FAQ", "Search", "Contact us", and "Legal Notice". A language dropdown menu is set to "English(en)".

The main content area is divided into three primary sections:

- Info about National Systems** (left sidebar): Includes "About EJN" (Welcome by the Secretary to the EJN, About EJN, EJN Secretariat, EJN Meetings, Registry, Photogallery), "Forum", "Events" (with a calendar for March 2011), and "News" (with a "See news" button).
- Practical application of the mutual recognition instruments** (center): Features a map of Europe with a color-coded legend and a "Countries" list with national flags for AT, BE, BG, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GR, HU, IE, IT, LT, LU, LV, MT, NL, PL, PT, R.O., SE, SI, SK, and UK.
- Practical application of the mutual legal assistance instruments** (right): Includes "Tools for mutual legal assistance" (Atlas, Compendium, Fiches Belges), "Contact Points", "Tools for mutual recognition instruments" (Atlas, Compendium, EAW), and "Library".

Additional sections at the bottom include "Investigation measures", "Cooperation with third countries", and "Draft a rogatory letter". A "Subscribe to Newsletter" button is located in the bottom left sidebar. The browser status bar at the bottom shows "Done", "Internet", and "100%".