

Minutes of the Union Syndicale Eurojust Executive Committee

Date: 02-09-2016

Present: Jakov Minic (President), Iro Karanikola (Vice President), Tiny Oosterling (Temporary Treasurer), Csaba Sandberg (Secretary)

Not present: Margarita Kokkinaki (Regular Treasurer), Nicolas Karayannis (Regular Member)

Meeting with the Staff Committee

- JM conveyed SC invitation for a first meeting
- All USEJ Executive Committee members should be present
- We should discuss cooperation and common topics of interest

Legal entity

- Agreement that Union Syndicale Eurojust should establish an informal association (no need for notarisation for now)
- Agreement that liability would be sufficiently mitigated by registering with Chamber of Commerce and indicating that the legal entity can only make legally binding decisions when all registered persons sign in union
- Agreement that JM, IK, and CS will be registered with the Chamber of Commerce initially

Framework agreement

- JM will approach Nick Panagiotopoulos when we are officially registered and he has taken position as acting AD

Federal Bureau & General Committee meetings

- General Committee meets 3 times a year, Federal Bureau meets 11 times a year
- Jean Marie is pushing for more agency input
- Jakov will attend next GC meeting
- Agreement that for now, our emphasis should be attending GC meetings

Focus areas

- Agreement to include as focus areas
 - Contract vs temporary agent positions and the use of CA contract for permanent positions

- Recruiting new members (from national desks, BFP, LS and CAU)
- Outcomes of EY external evaluation (see Annex)
- Establish direct contact with law firm to provide our members legal support
- Teleworking
- When everything is setup, we should ask members for other topics as well
- We should establish means of communication to inform potential members about benefits of joining:
 - Legal support
 - Legal entity
 - Independence from Eurojust, Staff Committee and other Unions
 - Support from Federation

Action Points

- JM – organise meeting with Staff Committee
- CS – confirm with Nicolas about legal entity setup
- TO – finish registration procedure with Chamber of Commerce
- TO – ask for quotes from different banks

Annex

Extracts from the [External evaluation of Eurojust and its activities](#)

Eurojust's effectiveness beyond its immediate casework is limited by insufficient strategic clarity (pg7)

This has led to a wide and heterogeneous range of objectives, some deviating significantly from Eurojust's casework experience, and an overextension of Eurojust's limited resources across a diverse array of topics and priorities.(pg7)

The consideration of the President as a 'primus inter pares' [first among equals] with limited responsibilities on external representation of Eurojust, the management of the work of the College and the day-to-day monitoring of the work of the Administrative Director limits effective leadership and the ability to set clear common vision and priorities, better streamline work processes at Eurojust and establish an accountability framework. (pg9)

Evaluators recommend that the legislator should: More clearly specify the roles and responsibilities assumed by the different actors (College, President and Administrative Director – supervisory, executive and operational roles) at Eurojust. (pg9)

Working practices at Eurojust could benefit from a greater convergence between National Desks in a limited number of areas. (pg 10)

The Administration can be commended for its flexibility, but a streamlined service offering may provide efficiency gains.

The Administration has proven its ability to provide a high level of service to Eurojust's operational activities. It executes its responsibilities in an efficient and effective manner and can be recognized for its flexibility. However, the evaluation found that there are often divergent understandings and expectations amongst members of the College concerning the services that the Administration should be providing. The collegial approach to governance has rendered it challenging to clearly prioritize and make trade-offs as concerns the services of the Administration . This has the effect of 'pulling' the Administration in multiple directions and creating a transaction - intensive relationship between the College and the Administration. This also limits the extent to which units can develop a set offering of services, plan strategically in the long - term and fully harness possible efficiency gains.

Evaluators recommend that the Administrative Director should : Promote the adoption of streamlined operational procedures at National Desks in order to be able to provide more homogenous support by the Administration. The College should also make efforts to more clearly define needs related to operational and policy work. (page 10-11)

Finally, choices made in the set - up of the organisation's cost - accounting system (the exclusion of National Desks) limit the extent to which it can fully capture the cost of Eurojust activities. (pg11)