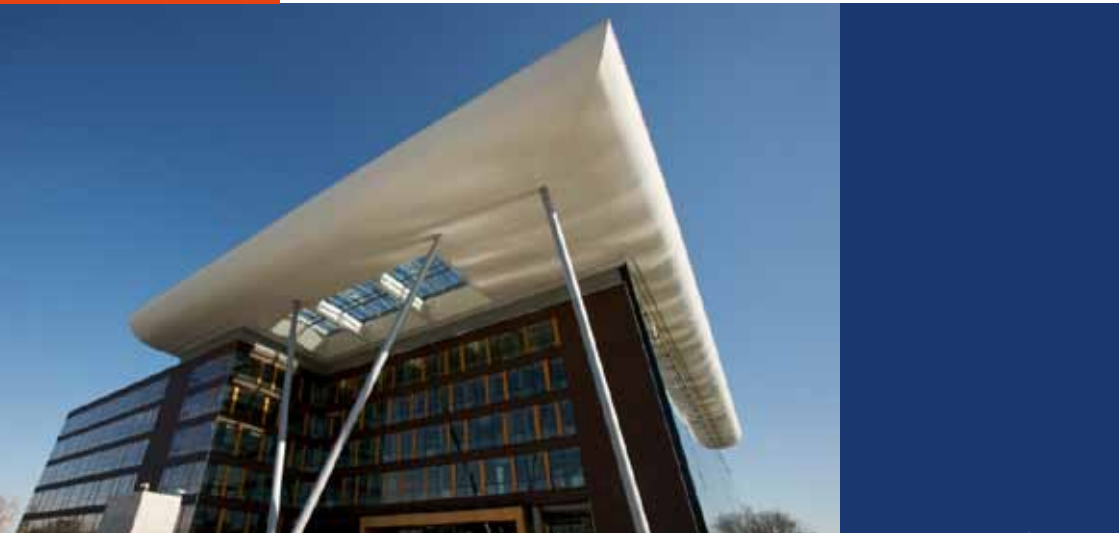


DIRECTORATE GENERAL  
HUMAN RIGHTS AND RULE OF LAW  
**INFORMATION SOCIETY AND ACTION  
AGAINST CRIME DIRECTORATE**



We provide standard setting,  
monitoring and co-operation activities  
on the media, Internet governance  
and on action against crime

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COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

## **T**he **INFORMATION SOCIETY AND ACTION AGAINST CRIME**

**DIRECTORATE** is responsible for the Council of Europe's work on the media, information society and for action against crime. The Directorate's activities comprise standard setting, monitoring and co-operation activities on a wide variety of issues, including freedom of expression, data protection, internet governance, cybercrime, criminal law, fighting economic crime, corruption and money laundering as well as action against drug trafficking and drug abuse. It also promotes transparency and understanding of the functioning of audiovisual industries in Europe from a legal and economic point of view.

**T**he **INFORMATION SOCIETY DEPARTMENT** provides the secretariat to the Steering Committee on Media and Information Society (CDMSI) which oversees the Council of Europe's work in the field of media, information society and data protection, and advises the Committee of Ministers on all questions within its area of competence, focusing on human rights protection and promotion.

— The department is also responsible for the Convention for the Protection of Individuals with regard to Automatic Processing of Personal Data (ETS No. 108). This unique, legally binding convention is being modernised to address issues raised by technical developments such as mobile devices and Internet services.

— Global online security is a growing concern. As criminals turn to the Internet, criminal activity in and through computer networks is overtaking other forms of criminality. The Convention on Cybercrime (Budapest Convention, ETS No. 185) is the only binding international instrument on this issue. It serves as a guideline worldwide and to date 42 states are party to the convention, including the USA, Japan, Australia and the Dominican Republic.

— The department also provides assistance to non-European countries to align their legislation to these international standards.



**S**ince 1992, the **EUROPEAN AUDIOVISUAL OBSERVATORY** has been collecting and distributing information about the audiovisual industry in Europe. This partial and enlarged agreement with its own budget aims at promoting greater transparency and a clearer understanding of the functioning of the audiovisual industry in Europe from an economic and legal point of view. Its data and analyses – made available online, in hard cover publications or via presentations – are used by all relevant decision makers in the audiovisual industry and additionally inform the public debate. The membership of the Observatory comprises 39 Council of Europe member states, the European Union and the Kingdom of Morocco.

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**W**ithin the **ACTION AGAINST CRIME DEPARTMENT**, the European Committee On Crime Problems (CDPC) oversees and co-ordinates the Council of Europe's activities in the field of crime prevention and crime control by identifying priorities for intergovernmental legal co-operation, making proposals to the Committee of Ministers in the fields of criminal law and procedure, criminology and penology, and implementing these activities.

■ The CDPC is responsible for following the functioning of more than 30 Council of Europe conventions in the criminal law field and for assisting the member states in the implementation of the relevant recommendations in the penitentiary field and as regards the execution of sanctions and measures in the community. The CDPC also prepares conventions, recommendations and reports, and organises conferences and seminars in addition to its plenary sessions.

■ Subjects that the CDPC is working on include the management and treatment of dangerous offenders, trafficking in human organs, the development of a strategic approach to combating transnational organised crime and, in the penitentiary field, overcrowding in prisons and electronic monitoring.



**G**RECO (Group of States against Corruption) is the Council of Europe's anti-corruption body, monitoring its members' (currently the 47 Council of Europe member states, Belarus and the United States of America) compliance with the Council of Europe's multifaceted legal instruments, by applying a process of information gathering, mutual evaluation and peer pressure to push for a more effective fight against corruption. The areas covered include political funding, appropriate criminalisation of bribery and trading in influence, recovery of the proceeds from corruption, promoting integrity and preventing corruption in public administration, parliaments and courts, and limiting immunity from prosecution. It is an enlarged agreement which also allows for the participation of non-member states of the Council of Europe and the European Union. GRECO's country-specific reports are public and member states are encouraged to provide national language versions in an effort to prompt all public institutions, civil society and the general public to support the reforms advocated.

**T**he **POMPIDOU GROUP's** core mission is to contribute to the development of multidisciplinary, innovative, effective and evidence-based drugs policies in its 37 member states. It seeks to link policy, practice and scientific research, focusing on the realities of local implementation of drugs programmes. By providing a multidisciplinary forum at the wider European level it is possible for policy makers, professionals and researchers to discuss and exchange information and ideas on the whole range of drug misuse and trafficking problems.

— In addition, the Pompidou Group serves as a bridge between EU and non-EU European countries and towards neighbouring countries in the Mediterranean region, while ensuring that policy recommendations adhere to Council of Europe policy and particularly respect for human rights.



**C**ODEXTER (Committee of Experts on Terrorism) is an intergovernmental committee that facilitates the implementation of the Council of Europe's action against terrorism by co-ordinating the work of all Council of Europe committees in relation to international law and the fight against terrorism. It provides an overview of the implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on the Prevention of Terrorism (CETS No. 196) and advises the Committee of Ministers on relevant matters. It focuses in particular on the drawing up of country profiles on legislative and institutional counter-terrorism capacity and the exchanges of best practice concerning, inter alia, the protection and compensation of victims of terrorism.

CODEXTER also identifies additional priority activities in the fight against terrorism and makes appropriate proposals to the Committee of Ministers which aim to intensify the Organisation's action in this field, including through preventive measures, while protecting and promoting human rights and fundamental freedoms.

**M**ONEYVAL (Committee of Experts on the Evaluation of Anti-Money Laundering Measures and the Financing of Terrorism) aims to ensure that states and territories under its evaluation processes have in place effective anti-money laundering systems (AML) and counter financing of terrorism systems (CFT), and that they comply with relevant international and European standards. Its evaluation reports set out the level of compliance with relevant standards, action plans and detailed recommendations to improve the AML/CFT system and these are followed up through specific processes. MONEYVAL is an Associate Member of the Financial Action Task Force since 2006.

The Conference of the States Parties to the Council of Europe Convention on Laundering, Search, Seizure and Confiscation of the Proceeds from Crime and on the Financing of Terrorism (CETS No. 198), complements the above mechanism by monitoring the proper implementation by parties of the convention's provisions in specific areas which add value to international standards.



**C O-OPERATION PROGRAMMES** exist in a number of criminal law areas. For those areas concerned with the prisons and the police they are implemented through a number of projects and individual bilateral and multilateral activities, focusing on facilitating improvement of the legal and institutional frameworks. The general standards used throughout all co-operation programmes are the findings of the CPT (European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment) and its standards, the case law of the European Court of Human Rights, the Human Rights Commissioner's reports, the European Prison Rules and the relevant Committee of Ministers recommendations.

As regards economic crime and corruption, support is provided for the implementation of international and European standards against corruption, money laundering and the financing of terrorism, including follow-up to the recommendations of GRECO and MONEYVAL. Examples of the support provided include dissemination of good practices, strategic policy and legislative advice, risk assessments, training, capacity and institution building and networking modalities among institutions in Europe.

Anti-corruption activities cover themes such as criminal liability and incriminations, political party financing and immunities, public procurement, declaration and the audit of assets, among others.

The capacities of law-enforcement authorities and, where appropriate, financial intelligence units, to detect, seize, freeze and confiscate assets to deprive criminals of their gains, as well as measures to manage confiscated assets, are enhanced through the Council of Europe's co-operation programmes that specifically target asset recovery.



# Websites

## **INFORMATION SOCIETY DEPARTMENT**

**Media and freedom of expression – Steering Committee on Media and Information Society (CDMSI)**

[www.coe.int/media](http://www.coe.int/media)

**Internet governance**

[www.coe.int/internetgovernance](http://www.coe.int/internetgovernance)

**Data protection**

[www.coe.int/dataprotection](http://www.coe.int/dataprotection)

**Cybercrime**

[www.coe.int/cybercrime](http://www.coe.int/cybercrime)

## **EUROPEAN AUDIOVISUAL OBSERVATORY**

[www.obs.coe.int](http://www.obs.coe.int)

## **ACTION AGAINST CRIME DEPARTMENT**

**European Committee on Crime Problems (CDPC)**

[www.coe.int/cdpc](http://www.coe.int/cdpc)

**Prisons and community sanctions and measures**

[www.coe.int/prisons](http://www.coe.int/prisons)

**Transnational criminal justice**

[www.coe.int/tcj](http://www.coe.int/tcj)

**Criminal law co-operation**

[www.coe.int/criminallawcoop](http://www.coe.int/criminallawcoop)

**Co-operation programmes against economic crime and corruption**

[www.coe.int/economiccrime](http://www.coe.int/economiccrime)

**Action against terrorism – Committee of Experts on Terrorism (CODEXTER)**

[www.coe.int/terrorism](http://www.coe.int/terrorism)

**Committee of Experts on the Evaluation of Anti-Money Laundering Measures and the Financing of Terrorism (MONEYVAL)**

[www.coe.int/moneyval](http://www.coe.int/moneyval)

**Conference of the Parties set up under the Council of Europe Convention on Laundering, Search, Seizure and Confiscation of the Proceeds from Crime and on the Financing of Terrorism (CETS No. 198)**

[www.coe.int/cop198](http://www.coe.int/cop198)

## **GROUP OF STATES AGAINST CORRUPTION (GRECO)**

[www.coe.int/greco](http://www.coe.int/greco)

## **CO-OPERATION GROUP TO COMBAT DRUG ABUSE AND ILLICIT TRAFFICKING IN DRUGS (POMPIDOU GROUP)**

[www.coe.int/pompidou](http://www.coe.int/pompidou)

**The Information Society and Action against Crime Directorate** is responsible for the Council of Europe's work on the media, information society and for action against crime. The Directorate's activities comprise standard setting, monitoring and co-operation activities on a wide variety of issues, including freedom of expression, data protection, internet governance, cybercrime, criminal law, fighting economic crime, corruption and money laundering as well as action against drug trafficking and drug abuse. It also promotes transparency and understanding of the functioning of audiovisual industries in Europe from a legal and economic point of view.



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