



EPAC/EACN WORK PROGRAMME

2022-2023

Context

EPAC/EACN Work Programme 2022-2023 was developed and adopted at the EPAC/EACN Board meeting on 23 March 2022. It sets out the key activities that will help EPAC/EACN members/observers to learn from each other and act together to further preventing and combating corruption phenomena in Europe. The EPAC/EACN Work Programme presented herewith will remain a living document, which can be adjusted according to changing priorities of the Board or a changing situation in the European anti-corruption landscape.

Mission and vision

EPAC/EACN's mission is to:

- ◆ Establish, maintain, and develop contacts between specialized anti-corruption and police oversight authorities
- ◆ Promote independence, impartiality, legitimacy, accountability, transparency, and accessibility in all systems created and maintained for the independent oversight of policing and anti-corruption work
- ◆ Promote international legal instruments and mechanisms from a professional perspective
- ◆ Support the development and the promotion of common working standards and best practices for police oversight bodies and anti-corruption authorities
- ◆ Provide a platform for the exchange of information and expertise concerning developments in police oversight and anti-corruption matters
- ◆ Provide support to other countries and organizations that are looking to establish or develop oversight mechanisms and anti-corruption authorities
- ◆ Cooperate with other organizations, authorities, networks, and stakeholders in compliance with the foregoing objectives

EPAC/EACN vision is to be an active and open platform of anti-corruption and police oversight professionals across the Europe, who are ready and willing to contribute to better police oversight and global fight against corruption through dialogue, joint efforts, exchange of expertise and sharing best practices.

General Information

The European Partners against Corruption (EPAC) and European contact-point network against corruption (EACN) are independent forums for anti-corruption and police oversight practitioners. While EPAC was initiated in 2001 and subsequently established in 2004, EACN grew out of EU Council Decision 2008/852/JHA of October 2008 as a more formal network based on EPAC's pre-existing structures. Having started out as a small unconventional forum, today EPAC brings together more than 80 anti-corruption authorities and police oversight bodies from Council of Europe and European Union Member States. EACN comprises a total of more than 50 anti-corruption authorities from EU Member States. The European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) is a member of both networks, while the European Commission, Europol and Eurojust are fully associated with the activities of EACN.

Together, EPAC and EACN provide a platform for practitioners to exchange expertise and information, assist each other, and cooperate across national borders, both on a practical and professional level. In line with their respective constitutions, EPAC and EACN also advocate international legal instruments and offer assistance to other bodies for establishing transparent, efficient mechanisms.

Priorities of the EPAC/EACN 2022-2023 Work Programme

The Work Programme is organised along three main thematic clusters:

- ◆ **Transfer of knowledge** – exchange of expertise and best practices shall be further strengthened to ensure independence, trust and professionalism of EPAC/EACN members for reducing corruption and delivering high-quality services to citizens and societies in their respective countries. This will be achieved through series of dedicated webinars, study visits and joint training sessions for all EPAC/EACN members, as well as other interested parties.
- ◆ **Analysis and advice** – promoting analytical activity for evidence-based decision-making in the area of anti-corruption and police oversight will be one of the key objectives for the upcoming period. Advancing on Big Data analytics, promoting the use of open data, establishing corruption trends and risks, measuring performance, setting of professional standards, providing policy advice and consultations will continue to be among priority areas for EPAC/EACN work.
- ◆ **Visibility and partnerships** – greater EPAC/EACN international awareness and coordination with other major actors in the area of anti-corruption and police oversight. This will be ensured through improving internal and external communication channels, employing social media, establishing and/or strengthening cooperation with EU institutions, major international organisations, other anti-corruption and police oversight professional networks.

Main activities of the EPAC/EACN Work Programme 2022-2023

| Objective | Activity | Deliverables | Timeline | Leaders |
|---|--|--|---------------------|--|
| Ensuring <i>transfer of knowledge</i> between EPAC/EACN members | establishing EPAC/EACN task force for training and transfer of knowledge through webinars and similar tools | - one task force | 2022 2Q | EPAC/EACN Board, EPAC/EACN Secretariat |
| | organising webinars to EPAC/EACN members and other interested parties | - at least four webinars per calendar year | starting in 2022 2Q | EPAC/EACN Board member(s), Dedicated task force |
| | initiating an international anti-corruption hackathon | - one international anti-corruption hackathon | 2022 4Q | EPAC/EACN members |
| | establishing EPAC/EACN task force for developing and implementing project activities for the benefit of EPAC/EACN members (such as study visits and similar tools) | - one task force | 2022 2Q | EPAC/EACN Board, EPAC/EACN Secretariat |
| | initiating a programme for exchange of best practices through study visits between EPAC/EACN members | - at least one developed project proposal benefiting from EU or other funding - one implemented project (<i>if selected</i>) | starting in 2022 2Q | EPAC/EACN Board member(s), Dedicated task force, EPAC/EACN members |
| | initiating a programme for exchange of best practices between EPAC/EACN members and relevant non-European authorities | - one developed project proposal - one implemented project (<i>if selected</i>) | starting in 2023 1Q | EPAC/EACN Board member(s), Dedicated task force, EPAC/EACN members |
| | organising advanced training to EPAC/EACN members on Big Data analytics within Big Data Working Group | - three-day training course - one-day follow-up workshop | 2022 2Q/3Q | EPAC/EACN member (through implementation of the EU funded project) |
| Providing <i>analysis and advice</i> on anti-corruption and police oversights | establishing EPAC/EACN task force for analysis and policy advice | - one task force - at least five reasoned opinions, reports or contributions on behalf of EPAC/EACN per calendar year | 2022 2Q | EPAC/EACN Board, EPAC/EACN Secretariat, Dedicated task force |
| | providing policy advice for EU institutions or other international organisations | - at least two meetings, reasoned opinions or other contributions per calendar year (<i>upon request or upon EPAC/EACN initiative</i>) | 2022 2Q 2023 2Q | EPAC/EACN President, EPAC/EACN Secretariat, Dedicated task force |
| | continuation of EU Integrity Working Group | - one final report on a professional standard | 2023 3Q | EPAC/EACN Board member(s), EPAC/EACN member |
| | organising Annual Conference and General Assembly 2022 | - one conference | 2022 4Q | EPAC/EACN Board, EPAC/EACN Secretariat, EPAC/EACN member |
| | organising Annual Conference and General Assembly 2023 | - one conference | 2023 4Q | EPAC/EACN Board, EPAC/EACN Secretariat, EPAC/EACN member |

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| Promoting greater EPAC/EACN <i>visibility and striking new partnerships</i> | starting EPAC/EACN social media accounts | - EPAC/EACN social media accounts on Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn | 2022 1Q | EPAC/EACN Secretariat |
| | maintaining and further improving EPAC/EACN website | - website at “www.epac-eacn.org” | continuous | EPAC/EACN Secretariat |
| | publishing EPAC/EACN newsletters | - six newsletters | 2022 1Q, 2Q and 4Q 2023 1Q, 2Q and 4Q | EPAC/EACN Secretariat |
| | publishing EPAC/EACN annual catalogue | - two annual catalogues | 2022 3Q 2023 3Q | EPAC/EACN Secretariat |
| | strengthen partnership with monitoring bodies of international organisations in the area of anti-corruption and police oversight | - meetings and, where appropriate, a partnership agreements, joint declarations or similar outputs with monitoring bodies | 2022 3Q | EPAC/EACN President, EPAC/EACN Board, EPAC/EACN Secretariat Dedicated task force |
| | establishing collaboration and partnerships with other international networks of anti-corruption and police oversight authorities | - meetings and, where appropriate, partnership agreements with other international networks, such as NCPA, IAACA, etc. | 2022 3Q/4Q | EPAC/EACN President, EPAC/EACN Board, EPAC/EACN Secretariat |
| | representing EPAC/EACN at the international events and conferences in the area of anti-corruption and police oversight | - participation and, where appropriate, presentations on behalf of EPAC/EACN | continuous | EPAC/EACN President, EPAC/EACN Board |
| | promoting initiatives to involve other anti-corruption and police oversight authorities from European countries to join EPAC/EACN | - new EPAC/EACN members by an end of 2023 | continuous | EPAC/EACN Board |