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European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice (CEPEJ)

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Malta



December 2018 – December 2019

Context of the Project

The CEPEJ and the Maltese authorities have been working in cooperation for 12 years with a view to ensuring a swift and time-efficient judicial system in Malta. The CEPEJ has therefore carried out several court coaching activities in Malta throughout the years, to collect and analyse data on its judicial system and develop recommendations on judicial time management. To further strengthen this dynamic and give a solid framework to this cooperation, the programme “Supporting the efficiency of Justice in Malta”, funded by the Structural Reform Support Service (SRSS) of the European Commission, started in December 2018 and will cover a period of 12 months.

To address and meet these challenges, a CEPEJ team of high-level international experts will be set up and will be supported by a national taskforce of Maltese justice professionals.

Project's objectives

The main objective of this co-operation is to support the Maltese authorities and judiciary in tackling judicial backlogs, and in ensuring that the judicial system can deal with the inflow of cases in an efficient and swift way. To achieve this objective, the CEPEJ experts will develop recommendations aimed at the Court of Appeal Superior Jurisdiction (introduction of a filtering system, identifying the needs in terms of human resources); and to support the Ministry of Justice in the development of a human resource Strategy for both the judicial and non-judicial staff in Maltese courts.

Expected outcomes

The CEPEJ will deal with Component 2 and 3 of the programme. The Division for Legal Cooperation of the Council of Europe will be in charge of the implementation of Component 1.

1. Improvements are made to the compilation (committal) proceedings before the Court of Magistrates as a Court of Criminal Inquiry with a view to significantly reducing their length in practice (component 1);
2. Improved capacity of the Court of Appeal Superior Jurisdiction to tackle its backlog, based on a good knowledge of the main areas of improvements and targeted recommendations (component 2);
3. Improved capacity of the Department of Courts of Justice and other relevant judicial stakeholders to manage human resources, based on a good knowledge of the main areas of improvements and the development of a solid Human Resources Strategy for judicial and non-judicial staff (component 3).

Project beneficiaries and stakeholders



The main partner is the Ministry of Justice, Culture and Local Government of Malta. It will be the main project beneficiary as well as the Court of Appeal Superior Jurisdiction of Valetta. The project is funded by the European Commission's Structural Reform Support Service.

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[Calendar and agendas of the forthcoming meetings](#)

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Resources

[CEPEJ Country profile Malta](#)

NEWS

HEADLINE VALETTA (MALTA) | 1ST FEBRUARY 2019



The kick-off activity of the Project « Supporting the efficiency of Justice in Malta » took place in Valetta, Malta, on 1 February 2019. CEPEJ experts discussed the expectations of the Maltese authorities, in particular from the judiciary, and identified possible areas of improvement as regards the main components of the Project. One of these component concerns the judicial time management in the Court of Appeal Superior Jurisdiction in Valetta, but also the resources needed to face the inflow of cases. The other component is related to the Human Resources strategy of the Ministry of Justice as regards the Maltese Courts, as regards both judicial and non-judicial staff. This activity has been organised under the framework of the recently started Project “Supporting the efficiency of Justice in Malta”, funded by the Structural Reform Support Service (SRSS) of the European Commission, and by the Council of Europe, and implemented by the Council of Europe.

► [More information about the Programme in Malta](#)

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