Glossary of summaries

POLICE AND JUDICIAL COOPERATION IN CRIMINAL MATTERS

Within the area of freedom, security and justice (AFSJ), the aim of police and judicial cooperation in criminal matters is to ensure a high level of safety for European Union (EU) citizens by preventing and combating crime, racism and xenophobia. It is dealt with in Title V of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (Chapters I, IV and V).

EU police and judicial cooperation in criminal matters takes 3 forms:
- cooperation between national police forces;
- cooperation between national administrations (in particular customs services);
- cooperation between national judicial authorities.

Cooperation is implemented with the help of EU agencies such as Eurojust, Europol and the European Judicial Network.

Cooperation between the judiciary mainly operates through a mechanism called mutual recognition of judgments and judicial decisions (e.g. in the area of detention & transfer of prisoners, the European Arrest Warrant, the European Investigation Order, the confiscation & freezing of assets, and financial penalties).

SEE ALSO
- Enhanced cooperation
- Eurojust
- European arrest warrant
- European Judicial Network in criminal matters (EJN)
- Europol (European Police Office)
- Freedom and security
- Fight against drugs
- Fight against fraud
- Justice
- Money laundering