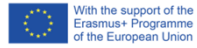




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Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence

CRICJ
Crime Investigations and Criminal Justice
CRICJ



Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence



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Abstract

The Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence Crime Investigations and Criminal Justice (CCICJ) establishes a transnational focal point of competence and in-depth knowledge with a theoretically founded, yet transferable practice-oriented approach on EU primary law aspects in the AFSJ with a view to money-laundering, its institutional framework and other derivative secondary legislative measures on AML measures. CCICJ incorporates the predominant human/fundamental rights dimension by interlinking the topical AFSJ-focus with the organisational and institutional programming of the EU, namely the broadening of the European Public Prosecutor's Office fields of action and the forthcoming European FIU (AMLA) as a new EU agency in Germany.

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01. Background

Background

Erasmus+ and Jean Monnet

The **EU Erasmus+ programme** supports training, education, youth and sport in Europe. With the new funding period (2021-2027) the focus is on social inclusion, the green and digital transitions, and promoting young people's participation in democratic life.¹

The **Erasmus+: Jean Monnet Actions** contribute to the dissemination of knowledge about matters of the European Union, offering opportunities in the field of higher education and other fields of training.²

What is the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence and what does it do?

The **Jean Monnet Centres of Excellence** are centres of expertise and knowledge on European Union topics. They bring together the expertise and competences of high-level experts with the aim of developing synergies between the different disciplines and resources of European Studies. They play a key role in reaching students from faculties that do not normally deal with EU issues, as well as policy makers, civil society and the general public. They also offer experts the opportunity to develop joint transnational activities. Jean Monnet Centres of Excellence are run by a higher education institution and may involve the collaboration of several faculties/departments and also include other organisations specialising in EU studies. The centres of excellence should lead research activities on specific EU topics, organise and coordinate their institution's resources related to European Union studies and collect, analyse and publish the most relevant results. The

¹ https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/about-erasmus/what-is-erasmus?pk_source=website&pk_medium=link&pk_campaign=hp&pk_content=hp-hero

² <https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/programme-guide/part-b/jean-monnet-actions>

important public relations work and outreach of the centres can include: Communication and information events at European and national level, Lectures, seminars or workshops with policy makers at local, regional and national level and with civil society, participation in specific learning exercises at school and vocational training level, networking with other organisations and individuals supported by Jean Monnet Actions, publicising their activities as open educational resources.

CCICJ: Centre of Excellence Crime Investigations and Criminal Justice

CCICJ establishes a transnational focal point of competence and in-depth knowledge with a theoretically founded, yet transferable practice-oriented approach on EU primary law aspects in the AFSJ (Art. 67 et seq. TFEU) with a view to money-laundering (Art. 83 TFEU), its institutional framework (esp. the Member States' FIUs) and other derivative secondary legislative measures (Art. 288 TFEU) on AML measures (esp. the 6 AML Directives). CCICJ incorporates the predominant human/fundamental rights dimension (Art. 2 TEU in conjunction with Art. 6 on the Right of Freedom and Security in the EU Charta of Fundamental Rights) by interlinking the topical AFSJ-focus with the organisational and institutional programming of the EU, namely the broadening of the European Public Prosecutor's Office (Art. 86 TFEU) fields of action and the forthcoming European FIU (AMLA) as a new EU agency. The integration and inter-agency aspects of these substantive and institutional AML measures at supranational level in the given AFSJ framework allows enhanced cross-sectoral investigations in the light of the new Europol Regulation of 2022 and the European Financial and Economic Crime Centre (EFECC) of 2017.



02. **Priorities & Goals**

Priorities & Goals

The **Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence Criminal Investigations and Criminal Justice** aims to generate knowledge and insights in support of EU policy-making and strengthen the role of the EU within Europe and in a globalized world.

In order to be successful, CCICJ will:

- identify the legal framework and procedures for normal operation and organizational boundaries in the AFSJ,
- pave the way for developing new curricular content and research areas,
- prepare evidence-based materials for dissemination and policy recommendations.

The overall goal of the CCICJ is to establish a transnational focal point of competence and in-depth knowledge at the scientific level for experts, at the practical level for practitioners and at the popular science level for the general public. To this end, the CCICJ works together with many renowned and committed partners. **The main focus is on the threat to democracy and the free order posed by organized crime.**

The CCICJ has thus set itself the goal of supporting and expanding the Rule of Democracy.

CCICJ: Topical Research and Curricular: Recommendation and Development

For this, the CCICJ will **establish four topical interdisciplinary research groups**, consisting of scientific experts and practitioners from all relevant areas, coming from the EU and relevant global countries, working from different angles and perspective to contribute to the overall goal to promote the Rule of Democracy. The promotion of young talents is a particular focus here, and students (from BA to PhD) are also going to be integrated for this purpose.

Each of the four research groups is led by an expert from the CCICJ core team and works on one main topic. The groups have access to organisational support as well as other experts and network partners. In particular, the exchange between the groups is also encouraged.

- **Research Group I** will focus on Criminal Investigations and Criminal Justice to promote the Rule of Democracy and fight the threat to democracy and the free order posed by organized crime in regard to **money laundering**.
- **Research Group II** will focus on Criminal Investigations and Criminal Justice to promote the Rule of Democracy and fight the threat to democracy and the free order posed by organized crime in regard to **victim protection and victim rights**.
- Research Group III will focus on Criminal Investigations and Criminal Justice to promote the Rule of Democracy and fight the threat to democracy and the free order posed by organized crime in regard to **compliance**.
- **Research Group IV** will focus on Criminal Investigations and Criminal Justice to promote the Rule of Democracy and fight the threat to democracy and the free order posed by organized crime in regard to **taxes and fiscal crime**.

The aim of all of them is the exchange of information between the experts involved, the broadening and dissemination of knowledge and the expansion of the networks. Furthermore, the research groups should lead to the production of joint publications and the development of a basis for the development of study guides/curricular and training manuals.

Besides establishing and working the four research groups, the CCICJ will work on this priority by analyzing the **EU normative framework** with the currently existing and foreseeable planned EU measures regulating the - broadly interpreted - area of measures related to civic engagement and cross-border policing at the supranational, the EU Member State's level and in addition at the level of the Western Balkans (pre accession) countries. These analyses aim to show the status quo in relation to "civic engagement and its possible links to the area of freedom, security and justice".

CCICJ will establish a **Resources Hub**, with which the CCICJ will inform publicly accessible on the status quo.

CCICJ: Taught Programme Units

With this priority the CCICJ aims at:

- promoting excellence in teaching and research in the field of European Union studies worldwide.
- teaching specialised EU subjects in the sphere of the AFSJ to students who are not yet well-equipped with relevant knowledge for their future jobs and duties
- transferring own and third-party research results of projects financed by the EU in the topical fields addressed by CCICJ

To this end, **four teaching units** are designed on the basis of the research findings and analyses carried out, implemented, tested and verified in form of final curricula. The interactive discussions and group work with the students will contribute to well-founded findings that will be developed in the form of **policy recommendations** and integrated into dissemination.

CCICJ: Project, Process and Quality Management

As an Erasmus+: Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence, the CCICJ aims in planning, optimizing, monitoring and managing the resources and work necessary to deliver the goals and priorities in an effective and efficient way. Therefore, the CCICJ establishes a monitoring system and conducts the **management and coordination** of all relevant aspects.

CCICJ will create a **Data Management Plan and Protection Concept**, which is constantly updated and in line with all relevant legal frameworks. It applies to all activities conducted (e.g. research groups). This DMP sets out provisions on four key elements: a) data descriptions, b) documentation and storage, c) access, sharing and re-use, and d) archiving.

CCICJ will also work on the basis of a **Gender Equality Plan** to ensure all activities are adhering to the mandatory character of the gender dimension in practice.

A **Dissemination and Communication Plan (DCP)** and a **Dissemination-Exploitation Plan (DEP)** will be developed. The DCP provides for key messages to be communicated, names the targeted addressees and the adequate tools along with the respective channels to be used. Emphasis shall be put on public and private institutions and practitioners' networks of all sector that are most influential in the relevant field. The DEP focuses on the dissemination and outreach activities of project (interim) results, implementing the DCP. The task is related to publications by the team partners.

CCICJ establishes a '**good governance and human rights**' approach throughout all activities and structures in order to ensure the compliance with EU ethical and fundamental rights principles and standards.

CCICJ will establish a structured **PhD Intake Programme** to attract and take-in PhD-students and a **Jean Monnet Activities' Network** with former and ongoing Jean Monnet activities world-wide.

Analysis of the EU normative framework: The CCICJ will analyse the currently existing and foreseeable planned EU measures regulating the - broadly interpreted - area of measures related to civic engagement and cross-border policing. This analysis aims to show the status quo at supra-national level (with clear indications of minimum harmonization at Member State level) in relation to "civic engagement and its possible links to the area of freedom, security and justice".

CCICJ: Institutionalization

Although the CCICJ starts as an Erasmus+: Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence project, funded by the European Union, the aim is to institutionalize the CCICJ and thus establish it as a long-term and sustainable research center. Partnerships and collaborations as well as work and goals are therefore designed for the long term.



03. Partnership

Partnership

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The CCICJ is looking forward to working with experienced experts and practitioners, interested organisations and committed students for our research groups, our network and the PhD Intake Programme.

If you are interested in getting involved, collaborating and working with us, have any questions to our research, trainings or the PhD Intake programme, or any suggestions - please get in touch directly with the contact persons listed or at info@ipos-research.eu or visit our website <https://ipos-research.eu/ccicj/>.



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