



Council of the  
European Union

Brussels, 13 March 2023  
(OR. en)

7336/23

COPEN 71  
EJN 5  
JAI 299

#### NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
No. prev. doc.:	9830/1/21 REV 1
Subject:	Implementation of Council Framework Decision 2003/577/JHA of 22 July 2003 on the execution in the European Union of orders freezing property or evidence - Information provided to the General Secretariat

Delegations will find attached a table with information about the state of play concerning the implementation of Council Framework Decision 2003/577/JHA of 22 July 2003 on the execution in the European Union of orders freezing property or evidence (OJ L 196, 2.8.2003, p. 45).

The information is based on information provided by Member States to the Council General Secretariat, to which reference is made in the last column.

In accordance with Article 14, the Framework Decision should have been implemented by 2 August 2005.

According to the information received so far, 26 Member States (BE, BG, CZ, DK, DE, EL, ES, EE, FR, HR, IE, IT, CY, LV, LT, HU, MT, NL, AT, PL, PT, RO, SI, SK, FI, SE) have implemented the Framework Decision in their national legal order and have made the necessary notifications/declarations.<sup>1</sup>

The information in the table is a summary of the information received: delegations are invited to consult the documents referred to in the last column, in order to obtain more detailed information.

The information provided in the table is up-to-date as at 13 March 2023. Any comments or suggestions for improvement should be sent to [steven.cras@consilium.europa.eu](mailto:steven.cras@consilium.europa.eu).

Please note that all information relating to the implementation of the Framework Decision can also be found on the [website](#) of the European Judicial Network (EJN).

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<sup>1</sup> A notification from LU is missing.  
In respect of certain Member States, some information is missing.

**Framework Decision 2003/577/JHA of 22 July 2003  
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<b>Member State</b>	<b>State/date of implementation of Framework Decision</b>	<b>Competent authorities for execution</b>	<b>Notification re Article 9(3) (languages) and nr. doc (if any)</b>
AUSTRIA	Implemented Entry into force of legislation: <b>2 August 2005</b>	Public prosecutors' offices (see list in 10575/21)	German, other languages on the basis of reciprocity 16187/06 10575/21
BELGIUM	Implemented Entry into force of legislation: <b>17 September 2006</b>	Public Prosecutor	French, Dutch, German and English 14228/06
BULGARIA	Implemented Entry into force of legislation : <b>25 July 2006</b>	Sofia City Court	Bulgarian
CROATIA	Implemented (as part of the acquis): Entry into force of legislation: <b>1 July 2013</b>	County state attorney`s offices according to the place where property or objects are placed or where a person has a registered residence or whereabouts.	Croatian In urgent cases accept translation in English on condition of reciprocity 12335/14
CYPRUS	Implemented Entry into force of legislation: <b>25 June 2010</b>	Unit of Combating Money Laundering (MOKAS), Attorney General's Office (Orders freezing property)	Greek, English

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CZECH REPUBLIC	Implemented Entry into force of legislation: <b>1 July 2006</b> Entry into force of <i>new</i> legislation: <b>1 January 2014</b>	The Prosecutor of the Regional Prosecutor's office (including Prague Municipal Prosecutor's Office) within which region is the property concerned by the freezing order situated	Czech Certificates from Slovakia in Slovak and from Austria in German provided that reciprocity is granted 11811/06
DENMARK	Implemented Entry into force of legislation: <b>22 December 2004</b>	Local Chief of Police Local Prosecutor	Danish
ESTONIA	Implemented Entry into force of legislation : <b>19 June 2008</b>	Prosecutor General's Office	Estonian, English
FINLAND	Implemented Entry into force of legislation: <b>2 August 2005</b>	Same prosecutors as for EAW	Finnish, Swedish, English or a translation in one of those languages. The competent prosecutor may also accept a certificate provided in a different language if there are no obstacles to such acceptance. 12022/05
FRANCE	Implemented (Act nr. 2005-750 of <b>4.7.2005</b> )	Prosecutors, investigating magistrates, judges for liberties and detention according to internal rules of competence and depending on the purpose of the request	French

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GERMANY	Implemented (Act of <b>6 June 2008</b> ) Entry into force of legislation: <b>30 June 2008</b>	State prosecutor	German and Official language of other member States which accept freezing orders in German 9309/10
GREECE	Implemented Entry into force of legislation : <b>1 March 2018</b>	Public Prosecutor	Greek 5939/20
HUNGARY	Implemented Entry into force of legislation: <b>5 November 2005</b>	Ministry of Justice and Law enforcement	Hungarian 11960/05
IRELAND	Implemented: Criminal Justice (Mutual Assistance) Act 2008. Entry into force of legislation: <b>1 September 2008</b>	Central Authority (see Art. 4.2): Mutual Assistance and Extradition Division, Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform (see address in 17405/08)	Irish, English 17405/08
ITALY	Implemented (Legislative decree no. 35 of 15 February 2016) Entry into force of legislation: <b>26 March 2016</b>	Public prosecutor. See explanation and list of competent authorities in 6982/17.	Italian 6982/17
LATVIA	Implemented. Entry into force of legislation : <b>1 January 2008.</b>	General Prosecutor's Office	Latvian and English 13688/08

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LITHUANIA	Implemented. Entry into force of legislation: <b>21 July 2007</b>	The regional prosecutor offices, or The General Prosecutor's Office (see 11507/17)	Lithuanian 11507/17
LUXEMBOURG			
MALTA	Implemented Entry into force of legislation: <b>7 December 2007</b>	Attorney General's Office	Maltese and English
NETHERLANDS	Implemented (law adopted on <b>16 June 2005</b> ) Entry into force of legislation: <b>1 August 2005</b>	International Legal Assistance Centres (competent authorities: prosecutors and investigating judges)	Dutch and English Certificates in other languages will be also accepted if accompanied by translation into English 7314/23 (former docs: 11729/05 and 11730/05)
POLAND	Implemented (law adopted on 7 July 2005) Entry into force of legislation: <b>2 August 2005</b>	- At trial stage: District Court ("sąd rejonowy") - At pre-trial stage: Circuit Prosecutor Office ("prokuratura okręgowa")	Polish 7199/06

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PORTUGAL	Implemented Entry into force of legislation: <b>5 June 2009 / 22 August 2017</b>	<p>For the execution of an application for seizure of property: the court.</p> <p>For the issuing of a decision to seize evidence, the competent authority is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the national judicial authority responsible for directing proceedings;</li> <li>• Portugal's national member of Eurojust;</li> <li>• in the case of administrative proceedings, the administrative entity responsible for processing administrative offences.</li> </ul> <p>For the execution of a request for the seizure of evidence: the national judicial authority competent to order the same measure on Portuguese territory (the court, the examining magistrate or public prosecutor's office) in the district in which it is to be executed.</p> <p>(see 7854/20 ADD 1)</p>	Portuguese 7854/20 + ADD 1

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ROMANIA	Law No 222 of <b>24 October 2008</b> Entry into force of legislation: <b>13 November 2008</b> Amended and supplemented by Law No 300, published in Official Gazette of Romania on <b>11 December 2013</b>	Ministry of Justice Directorate for International Law and Judicial Cooperation Division for international judicial cooperation in criminal matters	Romanian
SLOVAKIA	Implemented Entry into force of legislation: <b>1 January 2006</b>	District prosecutors	Slovak The Slovak Republic will accept certificates under this legal act in respect of the Czech Republic in Czech. 11319/15
SLOVENIA	Implemented Entry into force of legislation: <b>25 November 2007</b> Replaced by Act on International Cooperation in Criminal matters between the MSs of the EU Entry into force: <b>20 September 2013</b>	Investigating judges at district courts See doc. 8549/08	Slovenian and English 8549/08 and 17989/13



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SPAIN	<p>Implemented</p> <p>Entry into force of legislation: <b>7 June 2006</b></p> <p>Entry into force of Organic Law 23/2014 on mutual recognition of judicial decisions in criminal matters in the EU: <b>21 November 2014</b></p>	The examining magistrate ("Juez de instrucción") in which jurisdiction the property or evidence is located, and public prosecutors for those freezing evidence orders within their competence.	Spanish 8138/15 and 8720/15.
SWEDEN	<p>Implemented</p> <p>Entry into force of legislation: <b>1 July 2005</b></p>	<p>The public prosecutors at the international public prosecution offices are competent within their regions to deal with cases on freezing.</p> <p>Some specially authorized prosecutors at the Swedish Economic Crimes Authority are also competent to deal with cases concerning qualified economic criminality.</p> <p>Outside office hours regular duty and stand-by prosecutors are competent to handle cases on freezing.</p>	Declaration made pursuant Article 9(3): yes Swedish, Danish, Norwegian, English 11191/05 and 11728/05