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COVER NOTE

From:	Secretary-General of the European Commission, signed by Ms Martine DEPREZ, Director
date of receipt:	10 September 2026
To:	Ms Thérèse BLANCHET, Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union
No. Cion doc.:	COM(2026) 459 annex
Subject:	ANNEX to the Recommendation for a COUNCIL DECISION authorising the opening of negotiations for agreements between the Union and Bolivia, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Panama, Peru and the United Arab Emirates on cooperation between the European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation (Eurojust) and the competent authorities for judicial cooperation in criminal matters of those third States

Delegations will find attached document COM(2026) 459 annex.

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ANNEX

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Recommendation for a

COUNCIL DECISION

authorising the opening of negotiations for agreements between the Union and Bolivia, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Panama, Peru and the United Arab Emirates on cooperation between the European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation (Eurojust) and the competent authorities for judicial cooperation in criminal matters of those third States

ANNEX TO THE PROPOSAL

DIRECTIVES FOR THE NEGOTIATION OF AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE UNION AND BOLIVIA, CANADA, CHILE, COSTA RICA, ECUADOR, PANAMA, PERU AND THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES ON COOPERATION BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN UNION AGENCY FOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE COOPERATION (EUROJUST) AND THE COMPETENT AUTHORITIES FOR JUDICIAL COOPERATION IN CRIMINAL MATTERS OF THOSE THIRD STATES

In the course of the negotiations the Commission should aim to achieve the objectives set out in detail below.

- (1) The objective of the agreements shall be to provide the legal basis for the cooperation between Eurojust and the competent authorities of the third countries concerned respectively, including the exchange of operational personal data, in order to support and strengthen the action by the competent authorities of these countries and the Member States as well as their mutual cooperation in preventing and combating the forms of crime for which Eurojust is competent in accordance with Regulation 2018/1727, while ensuring appropriate safeguards with respect to the protection of privacy, personal data and the fundamental rights and freedoms of individuals.

To guarantee purpose limitation, cooperation and exchange of personal data under the abovementioned agreements shall only relate to crimes and related offences falling within Eurojust's competence in accordance with Article 3 of Regulation 2018/1727 (together "criminal offences"). In particular, cooperation should be aimed at investigating and prosecuting serious crime, notably terrorism, organised crime, illicit trafficking of firearms, drug trafficking, trafficking in human beings and migrant smuggling, and cybercrime. The agreements shall specify their scope and the purposes for which Eurojust may transfer data to the competent authorities of the third countries concerned.

- (2) The agreements shall set out clearly and precisely the necessary safeguards and controls with respect to the protection of personal data, fundamental rights and freedoms of individuals, irrespective of nationality and place of residence, in the exchange of personal data between Eurojust and the competent authorities of the third countries involved. In addition to the safeguards set out below, these shall include requiring that the transfer of personal data will be subject to confidentiality obligations and that the personal data will not be used to request, hand down or execute a death penalty or any form of cruel and inhuman treatment, without prejudice to additional safeguards that may be required.

In particular:

- (a) The agreements shall contain definitions of key terms, including a definition of personal data compliant with Article 3(1) of Directive (EU) 2016/680.
- (b) The agreements shall respect the principle of purpose limitation, ensuring that the data will not be processed for purposes other than the transfer. Data may be processed for a supplementary purpose, which shall be compatible and specific, only with the explicit authorisation of the transferring Party. To this end, the purposes of the processing of personal data by the Parties in the context of the agreements shall be spelt out clearly and precisely and shall be no wider than what is necessary in individual cases for the purpose of preventing and

combating the criminal offences to which the agreements relate. The Contracting Parties may decide by common accord that the information transferred may be used for a supplementary, compatible and specific purpose, which shall be specified at the moment of such common accord and shall fall within the scope of the agreements.

- (c) Personal data transferred by Eurojust in accordance with the agreements shall be processed fairly, on a legitimate basis and only for the purposes for which they have been transferred. The agreements shall provide the obligation for Eurojust to indicate, at the moment of transferring the data, any restrictions on access or use, including as regards its transfer, erasure, destruction or further processing. The agreements shall oblige the competent authorities of the third countries concerned to respect these restrictions and specify how compliance with these restrictions will be enforced in practice. Personal data shall be adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary in relation to that purpose. It shall be accurate and kept up to date. It shall not be retained for longer than is necessary for the purposes for which it has been transferred. The agreements shall provide for the periodic review of the need for further retention of the transferred personal data. The agreements shall be accompanied by an annex containing an exhaustive list of the competent authorities of the third States concerned to which Eurojust may transfer data as well as a short description of their competences.
- (d) The transfer of personal data revealing racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religious or philosophical beliefs, trade-union membership, genetic data and data concerning a person's health and sex life by Eurojust shall be prohibited, unless it is strictly necessary and proportionate in individual cases for preventing or combating criminal offences covered by the agreements and subject to appropriate safeguards. The agreements should also contain specific safeguards relating to the transfer of personal data on victims of criminal offences, witnesses or other persons who can provide information concerning criminal offences, as well as minors.
- (e) The agreements shall ensure enforceable rights of individuals whose personal data are processed by laying down rules on the right of information, access, rectification and erasure, including the specific grounds which may allow any necessary and proportionate restrictions. The agreements shall also ensure enforceable rights of administrative and judicial redress for any person whose data are processed under the agreements and guaranteeing effective remedies.
- (f) The agreements shall lay down the rules on storage of personal data, on correction of inaccurate personal data and on deletion of unlawfully transferred personal data as well as on keeping records and logs for the purposes of accountability and documentation. They should also provide safeguards in respect to automated individual decision-making. The agreements should also specify the criteria on the basis of which the accuracy of the data should be assessed.
- (g) The agreements shall include the obligation to ensure the security of personal data through appropriate technical and organisational measures, including by allowing only authorised persons to have access to personal data. The Agreements shall also include the obligation of notification in the event of a personal data breach affecting data transferred under the agreement.

- (h) Onward transfers of information from the competent authorities of the third countries concerned to other authorities within their own country, including for use in judicial procedures, shall only be allowed for the original purposes of the transfer by Eurojust and shall be made subject to appropriate conditions and safeguards, including prior authorisation by Eurojust.
 - (i) The same conditions as indicated under point (h) shall apply to onward transfers of information from the competent authorities of the third country concerned to authorities in another third country, with the additional requirement that such onward transfers shall be allowed only to third countries to which Eurojust is entitled to transfer personal data on the basis of Article 56(2) of Regulation 2018/1727.
 - (j) The agreements shall ensure a system of oversight by one or more independent public authorities responsible for data protection with effective powers of investigation and intervention to exercise oversight over the public authorities of the third countries concerned that use personal data and other information exchanged under the agreements, and to engage in legal proceedings. In particular, the independent authorities shall have the power to hear complaints from individuals about the use of their personal data. Public authorities that use personal data shall be accountable for complying with the rules on the protection of personal data under the agreement.
- (3) The agreements shall provide for an effective dispute settlement mechanism with respect to its interpretation and application to ensure that the parties observe mutually agreed rules.
- (4) The agreements shall include provisions on the monitoring and periodic evaluation of the agreements, performed by teams that include relevant experts on data protection.
- (5) The agreements shall include a provision on their entry into force and validity and a provision whereby a Party may terminate or suspend it, in particular where the third country concerned no longer effectively ensures the level of protection of fundamental rights and freedoms required under the agreement. The agreements shall also specify whether personal data falling within its scope and transferred prior to its suspension or termination may continue to be processed. Continued processing of personal data, if permitted, shall in any case be in accordance with the provisions of the agreement at the time of suspension or termination.
- (6) The procedure for negotiations shall be as follows:
- (a) The negotiations must be prepared well in advance.
 - (b) Where the Commission considers it necessary, or upon request of the Council, the negotiating sessions shall be preceded by a meeting of the COPEN Working Party in order to identify the key issues, formulate opinions and provide guidance, as appropriate.
 - (c) The Commission shall report to the Council and the European Parliament on the developments of the negotiations during the negotiating phase or, when a number of negotiations are conducted in parallel, after a series of negotiation sessions.
 - (d) The Commission shall inform the Council and consult the COPEN Working Party on any important issue that may arise during the negotiations.

- (7) The agreements shall be equally authentic in the Bulgarian, Czech, Croatian, Danish, Dutch, English, Estonian, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Hungarian, Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Maltese, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Slovak, Slovenian, Spanish and Swedish languages and shall include a language clause to that effect.