
The EPPO and EU law: a step forward in integration

June Steering Committee meeting

CHAIR: BENEDETTA UBERTAZZI
VICE-CHAIR: ANTONY ZHILKIN



OUR GENERAL UPDATES

- a new subcommittee is underway chaired by Roberto Saviano!
- The Administrative Office of the Milano-Bicocca university informed us that the results of the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence Call will be published on July-August 2023





I. CONNECT SUBCOMMITTEE

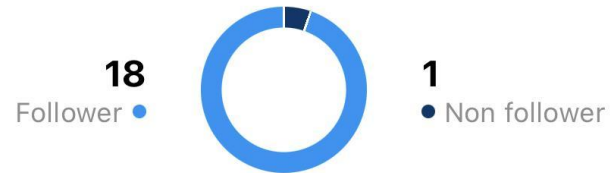
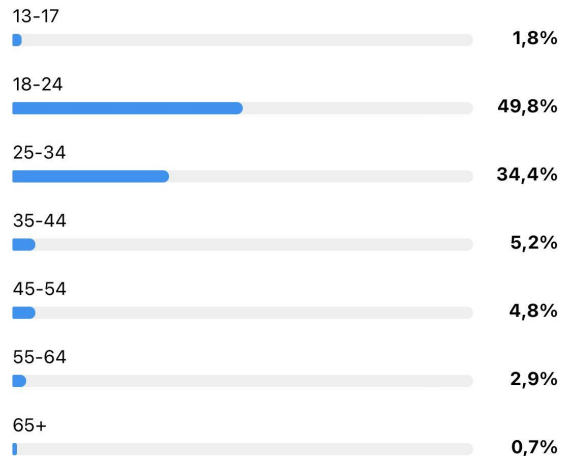
CHAIR: CARLOTTA ELENI, DIMITRI ELENI, NIDHI MEHRA



INSTAGRAM

Fascia d'età dei tuoi follower

Tutti Uomini Donne



Contenuti più popolari

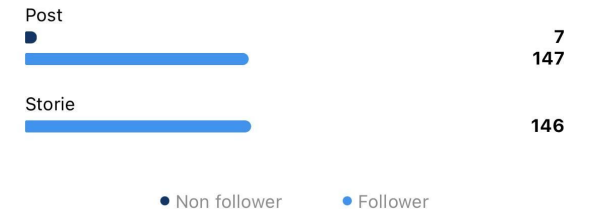
In base alle interazioni



Impression 540 +92,8%

Contenuti più popolari

In base alla copertura



as you can see from the graphs above, there has been a **92%** increase in the last few days with **540** impressions for the latest posts

LinkedIn

INSIGHTS

Analisi

 Solo per te



97 visualizzazioni del profilo

Scopri chi ha visitato il tuo profilo.



122 impressioni del post

Scopri chi sta interagendo con i tuoi post.

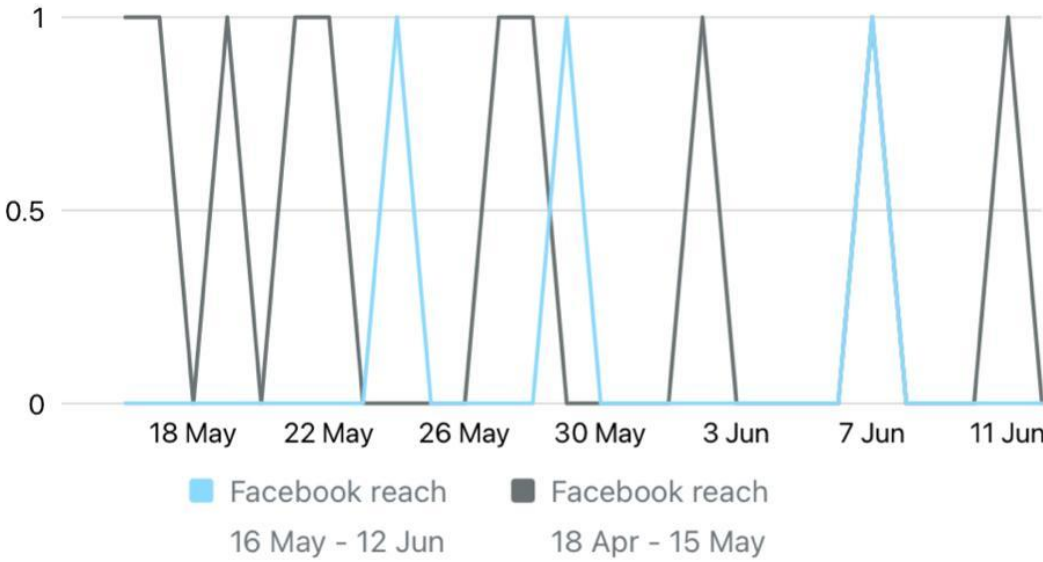


4 comparse nei motori di ricerca

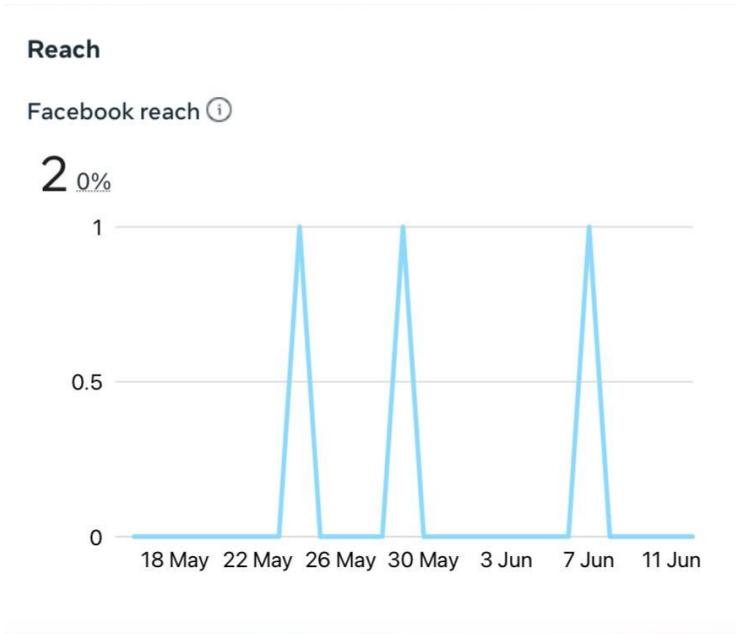
Vedi quante volte compari nei risultati di ricerca.

unlike instagram for LinkedIn, the impressions for the latest posts vary from **100 to 122**, with **97** new profile views.

FACEBOOK



facebook's goal will be to **increase followers** as much as impressions on posts are increasing



TWITTER

May 2023:

publications and case law on eppo
-42 impressions

European lawyers association, annual meeting in Bratislava
-56 impressions

Why eppo is a real game-changer for cross-border financial investigations within
European Union
-17 impressions

The Jean Monnet module's second success in a row
-36 impressions

Module's participation in the eppo conference in Luxembourg
-26 impressions

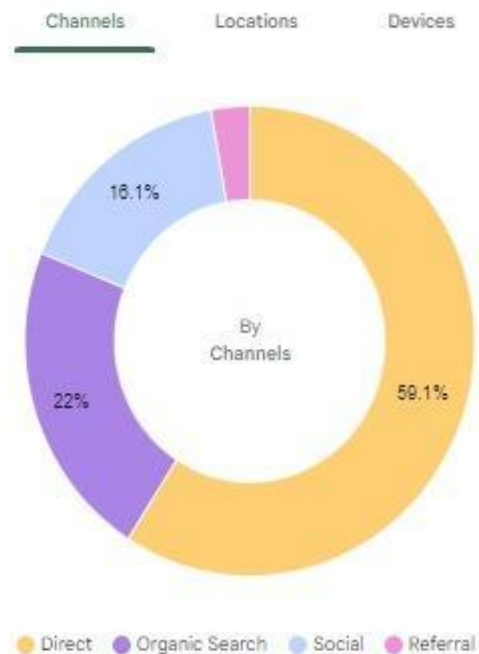
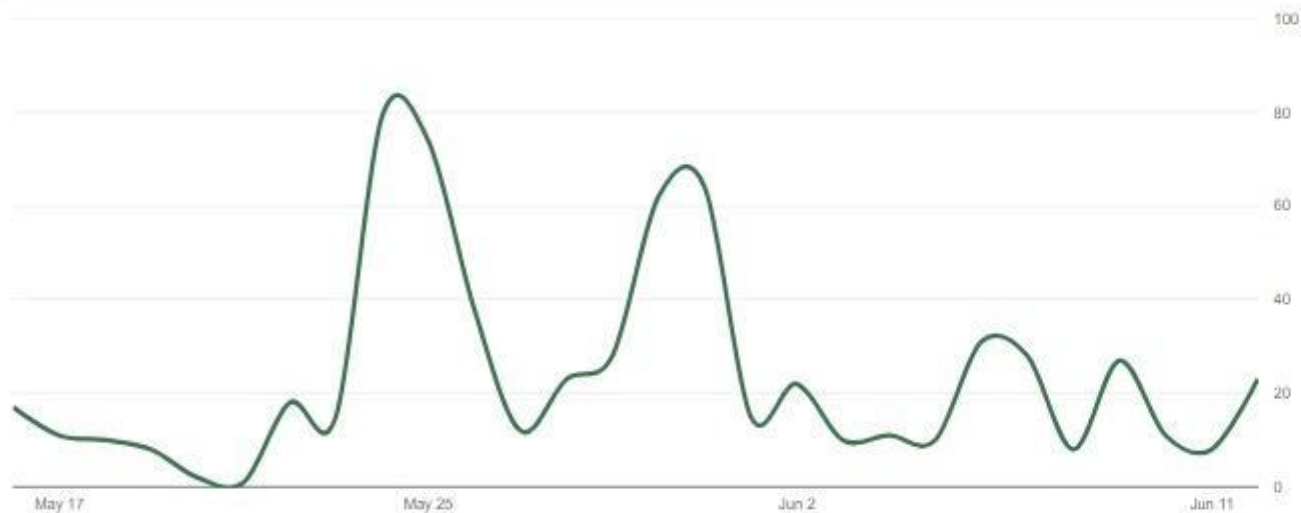
twitter has had an
increase in post
impressions.
the increase varies
from 19 impressions
up to a **maximum of**
56

WEBSITE

All Users

520

↓ 13% compared to the previous 28 days



Source: Analytics

annual website data

Total Impressions

3,5K

↓ 6.3%

Total Clicks

133

↓ 31.1%

Unique Visitors from Search

165

↓ 35%

Set up goals to track how well your site fulfills your business objectives.

Create a new goal

Goals completed



Località

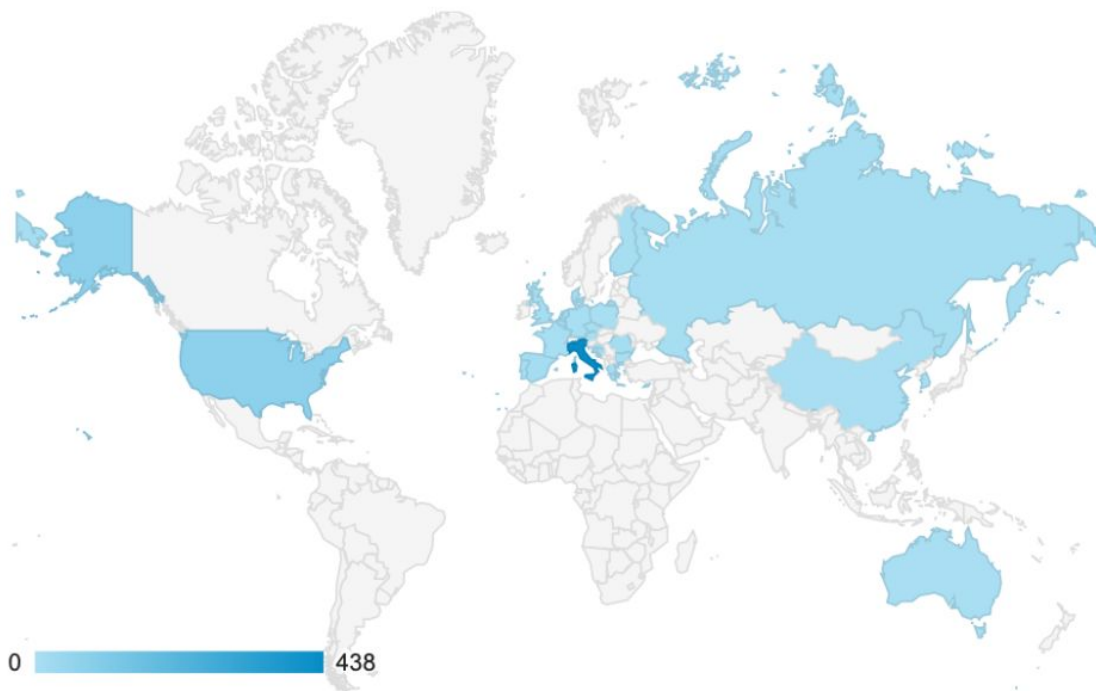
Tutti gli utenti
+0,00% Utenti

1 mag 2023 - 31 mag 2023
Confronta con: 1 mag 2022 - 31 mag 2022

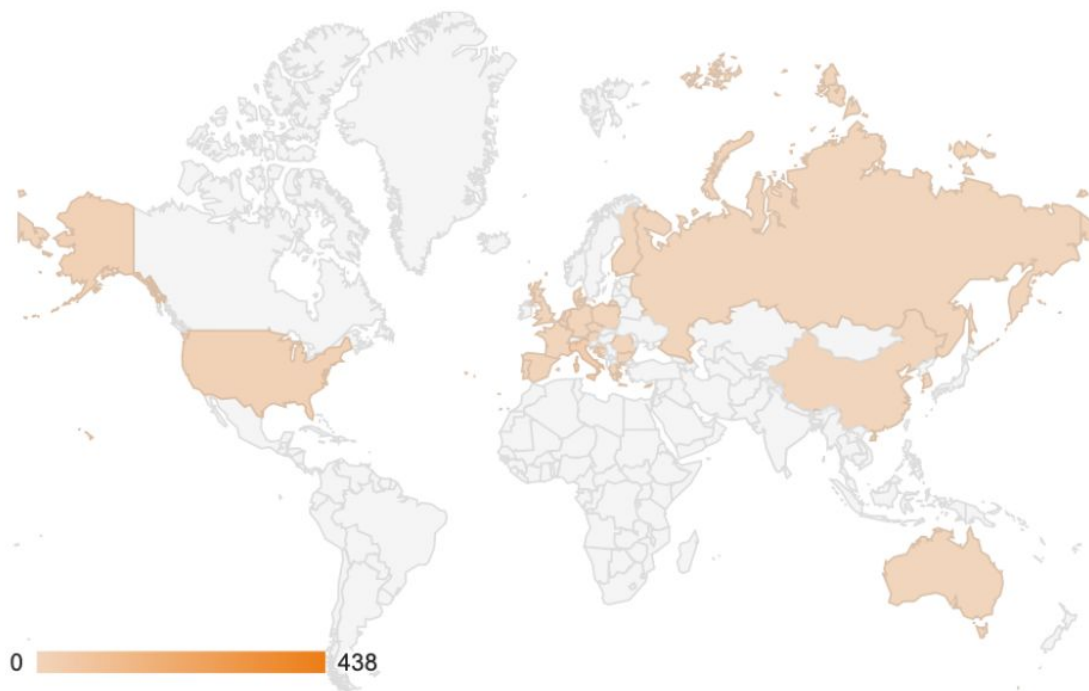
Overlay mappa

Riepilogo

1 mag 2023 - 31 mag 2023



1 mag 2022 - 31 mag 2022



Paese	Acquisizione			Comportamento			Conversioni		
	Utenti ↓	Nuovi utenti	Sessioni	Frequenza di rimbalzo	Pagine/sessione	Durata sessione media	Tasso di conversione all'obiettivo	Completamenti obiettivo	Valore obiettivo
	826,87% ↑ 621 vs 67	782,46% ↑ 503 vs 57	859,62% ↑ 998 vs 104	6,25% ↓ 52,10% vs 49,04%	4,95% ↓ 2,33 vs 2,45	85,04% ↑ 00:02:49 vs 00:01:31	0,00% 0,00% vs 0,00%	0,00% 0 vs 0	0,00% 0,00 USD vs 0,00 USD



2. COLLABORATE SUBCOMMITTEE

CHAIR: LORENZO SALAZAR



EURCRIM – A MAX PLANCK PUBLICATION

- Eurcrim is an online platform for European criminal law, encouraging discussion among practitioners and academics focusing on Europe's changing security architecture and the blurring between criminal and administrative sanctions law. Regular readers of Eurcrim include, not least, representatives of EU institutions and the Associations for European Criminal Law and for the Protection of the EU's Financial Interests.

euocrim 2022 / **4**
THE EUROPEAN CRIMINAL LAW ASSOCIATIONS' FORUM



EURCRIM – A MAX PLANCK PUBLICATION

- It also has an open access journal published 4 times a year in print containing among others, short reports on current developments in European criminal law and administrative law published by the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Crime, Security and Law and co-financed by the European Commission Anti-Fraud Office

Articles

EPPO Now Operational – Perspectives from European Prosecutors

- 45 Le parquet européen: un projet entre audace et réalisme politique – *Frédéric Baab*
- 47 A Legal Obstacle in the Regulation? – *Danilo Ceccarelli*
- 49 The Material Competence of the EPPO and the Concept of Inextricably Linked Offences – *José Eduardo Guerra*
- 51 Reporting of Crime Mechanisms and the Interaction Between the EPPO and OLAF as Key Future Challenges – *Petr Klement*
- 53 EPPO – Diversity and Challenges in Investigation and Prosecution in 22 Member States – *Tamara Laptos*

EPPO AND EU LAW IN EURCRIM

- Thanks to Lorenzo Salazar, chair of Collaborate Committee, who is also a member of the Editorial Board of Eurcrim, who proposed that we publish a piece in this journal; we will be publishing a column highlighting the activities undertaken by all committees and the work in this very prestigious journal.
- We will shortly share the text of the column with everyone.

NEWS

- The Panel established under art. 14 of the EPPO Regulation has already sent to the Council the ranking for 5 Countries (CY, GR, LT, AT and IT) over 8 in order to cover the positions of the 8 outgoing European Prosecutors
- The preparatory bodies of the Council have already agreed on a list of the 5 new European prosecutors to be appointed which, in 4 over 5 cases, reflects the ranking of the Panel.
- The Coreper should adopt a partial decision already next week and the Council should ratify it during one of its next meetings as an A) point.
- The Panel will resume next week in order to finalize the selection procedure in order to send to the Council the ranking concerning the remaining candidates for the 3 remaining positions (SP, P and NL).
- The overall procedure should be concluded by the early July in order to avoid any vacuum for the functioning of the EPPO after the summer break.



3. INTERVIEW & MEDIA SUBCOMMITTEE

CHAIR: SERENA CACCIATORE



UPDATE ON PROPOSED ACTIVITIES FOR JUNE 2023

- ❑ Interview to Stefano Castellani, European Delegated Prosecutor in Turin
- ❑ We have planned the interview sessions on July

UPDATE ON PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR JULY 2022

- Scheduling the interview for the month of July
- Interview to VICENTE SARASUA, OLGA, PhD student from Países Vascos

4. LAWYERS SUBCOMMITTEE

CHAIR: FABRIZIO DE' SANNA – FEDERICO IACOPO MAMOLI



CRIMINAL LAWYER: FABRIZIO DE' SANNA

- For this meeting, we are required to come prepared with a brief presentation on a topic related to the activities of our subcommittee. We chose the topic of the investigatives measures (such as inspections, search and seizure orders, and also wiretaps and its related procedural guarantees).
- The regulation no. 2017/1939 provides that those investigative measures may be applied by the EPPO's Office for the crimes that are punished by a maximum penalty of at least 4 (four) years of imprisonment, but their application may be subject to limitations in accordance with national law.
- In particular, for example, in the subject of wiretapping activities, each member state has its own specific regulation: in Spain wiretaps can be order only if the crime is punished with more or equal to 3 years of imprisonment; in France at least 3 years; and in Italy - as all we know - at least 5 years.
- Consequently, we could discuss about a serious problem of necessary harmonization among the disciplines of the different Member States, in order to guarantee the effectiveness if the EPPO's action.
- The concrete application of the investigative measures must be respectful of the principle of the proportionality, in order to avoid a violation to the fundamental rights of individuals during the preliminary investigations of EPPO' Offices.

CIVIL LAWYER: FEDERICO IACOPO MAMOLI

- I, in quality of head of Steppo civil lawyers committee, participated in the European Lawyers Association (ELA) annual meeting 2023 in Bratislava – Slovakia.
- In such context several international lawyers coming from many European countries gathered to discuss topical legal subject matters.
- One of the main topics was the “fight of corruption and commercial fraud” in the East Europe countries belonging to UE (Slovakia, Czech Republic, Hungaria, Polonia, Bulgaria).
- Most of the speakers insisted on the fact that, in consideration of the increasing number of this kind of criminal offences, new tools of intervention should be put in action. Also the role of the European Public Prosecutor Office (EPPO) was mentioned and discussed by the attendees coming from almost all european states.
- I exploited that occasion to talk about our Steppo Programme. Most of the participants showed a huge interest in the innovative content of Steppo and announced the promotion of the benefits of EPPO in their countries and contribute to the Steppo 2024 edition.
- With this regard, ELA Board of Directors decided to invite me at next ELA Board Meeting that will take place in Luxembourg in November 2023 to discuss further options of collaboration between ELA and STEPPO programme.

UPDATE ON PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR JULY 2023

- We are continuing to select and collect information on procedural activities and guarantees in different EU legal system.
- We are also focusing on the figure of the “European lawyer” in criminal matters regarding Eppo’s proceedings.



5. PROSECUTOR'S COMMITTEE

CHAIR: PIETRO SUCHAN



UPDATE ON RECENT ACTIVITIES OF THE EPPO

Carousel Fraud: the first big operation of the EPPO of Venice has been done with requests of seizures and of precautionary measures for people and estates and they have been ordered by the Judge of Preliminary investigations of Padua .

The measures have been executed simultaneously in Italy, Poland, Great Britain and other European countries which have subscribed the reinforced cooperation

The damage to the VAT is estimated in more than 26 Million Euros.

UPDATING 15.06.2023

- The EDP of Rome has produced new «Sentenze» and «Ordinanze» of the Tribunale del Riesame of Palermo and Court of Cassation about a big Carousel Fraud in Palermo – The papers will be studied and an analysis will follow and will be published in a blog;
- The carousel fraud is about preventive seizures which have been requested and executed by the European Public Prosecutor's Office in Palermo ;
- The execution was ordered by the European Public Prosecutor's Office of Madrid according to Art, 31 and 32 of the EPPO regulation.
- We encourage people to sign up to this Committee.

6. ACADEMIC SUBCOMMITTEE

CHAIRS: ALEJANDRO HERNÁNDEZ LÓPEZ, ILARIA STICCHI



UPDATES ON THE BOOK “EPPO AND THE RULE OF LAW”

FINAL LIST OF THE AUTHORS

- Serena Crespi
- Gianluca Forlani
- Alejandro Hernandez Lopez
- Federica Iorio
- Petr Klement
- Laura Kövesi
- Oliviero Mazza
- Lorenzo Salazar
- Roberto Saviano
- Ilaria Sticchi
- Pietro Suchan
- Ludovica Tavassi
- Francesco Testa
- Benedetta Ubertazzi

UPDATED ON THE BOOK “EPPO AND THE RULE OF LAW”

In the past month we have:

- transcribed Roberto Saviano's speech at the closing conference and sent him the transcript for verification
- sent to the authors **the editorial rules** of the series of the Department of Law of the University of Milan-Bicocca, issued by the editor Giappichelli a **template for the text** of the contribution an example of the **authors' index**
- reminded the authors that the **deadline** for submitting papers is **the end of November 2023**
- received the **abstracts** of the contributions from the following authors

- Serena Crespi

- Gianluca Forlani

- Alejandro H. Lopez

- Federica Iorio

- Petr Klement

- Laura Kövesi

- Oliviero Mazza

- Lorenzo Salazar

- Roberto Saviano

- Ilaria Sticchi

- Pietro Suchan

- Ludovica Tavassi

- Francesco Testa

- Benedetta Ubertazzi

UPDATES ON THE BOOK “EPPO AND THE RULE OF LAW”

In the coming months we will:

- continue to keep authors up to date with the publication of the book and remind them of the submission deadline
- prepare and submit the documents to obtain funding from the Department of Law of the University of Milan-Bicocca to cover the costs of publishing the book



7. JUDICIAL BODIES SUBCOMMITTEE

CHAIR: ARTURO IADECOLA



UPDATE ON PROPOSED ACTIVITIES FOR APR.-MAY 2023

- The database of the decisions regarding EU funds has been enriched with new documents.
- Arturo Iadecola and Maria Sofia Scalici took part to the Closing Conference of the “EPPO and EU law” Program (Milan, 18 April 2023), where they presented the database of decisions regarding fraud and misuse of EU funds.

UPDATE ON PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR JUNE 2023

- We'll keep adding new decisions and abstracts to the database.
- We are exploring the possibility of an improvement of the database, adding a search mask/search engine.



8. LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES SUBCOMMITTEE

CHAIR: FLAVIA NDRIOLLARI



ACTIVITIES FOR MAY 2023

- Publication of a comment about the article written by Colonel Giuseppe D'Urso - Commander of the Nucleo P.E.F. Milano (tax police department) on the operation «Mulino – Komosechiamas» (13 million euros of VAT evasion).

PROPOSED ACTIVITIES FOR JUNE-JULY 2023

- Analysis of the first case of conflict of jurisdiction between the Ordinary Prosecutor's Office of Brescia and the European Public Prosecutor's Office (investigation, conducted by Guardia di Finanza, of a tax fraud and related bribery of a financial police non-commissioned officer): Italian Supreme Court of Cassation ruling.



9. EU INSTITUTIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

CHAIR: FRANCISCO FONSECA MORILLO, PETR KLEMENT, FLORIN-RĂZVAN RADU



WORKING ARRANGEMENTS WITH EU PARTNERS

- On 12 June, the EPPO signed a working arrangement on cooperation with the European Judicial Training Network (EJTN).
- Under this arrangement, both organisations have committed to work together to develop and implement long-term training periods at the EPPO for prosecutor, judges and court and prosecution staff, as well as study visits and residential and online training activities.
- The new cooperation between EJTN and EPPO also covers a structured exchange of information in view of facilitating the planning of training activities, the provision of legal English training, and the funding of judiciary learning grant visits to the EPPO.
- The negotiations on a similar WA with CEPOL have been finalised. The WA will be signed in autumn 2023 after approval by the CEPOL Management Board and adoption by the College of the EPPO.

OTHER NEWS

- On 22 June, the Advocate General shall deliver her Opinion in Case C-281/22.

10. CREATE SUBCOMMITTEE

CHAIRS: IMAN KHODRI, ESTELLA GAMBARA, VERONICA CARBONE



UPDATE ON PROPOSED ACTIVITIES FOR MAY / JUNE 2023

- Creation of an evaluation form about the Jean Monnet module «The EPPO and EU Law: a step forward in integration» 2023;
- we also prepared a form to let the participants get their certificate of attendance.
- Publication of an article about the results of the evaluation form: we received **155 answers, which is a great result!** You can read it to know what the participants thought of the module and of the Steppo website.



The EPPO and EU Law: a step forward in integration, second success in a row

Giu 8, 2023 | [Create Subcommittee](#)

Author: Estella Gambarà & Iman Khodri

Create subcommittee Milan, 08/06/2023

This Jean Monnet module on the EPPO was an initiative accredited by the Milan Bar Association and by the National Bar Council thanks

to Benedetta Ubertazzi, Associate Professor of EU Law,...

[leggi tutto](#)

UPDATE ON PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR JUNE / JULY 2023

- Our co-chair Veronica Carbone participated with Dr. Bemer to the conference «*EPPO the way forward: new potentials and challenges*» at the EPPO, Luxembourg, 5-6 June 2023.
- A blog post about this experience will be soon published: you will see the great results achieved for the **future of the VR Game**.



II. SERIOUS GAME SUBCOMMITTEE

CHAIR: BEMER FABRIZIA



UPDATING: MEETING 17.05.2023

- After the Conference, **which has been a real success** , new articles have been posted
- Beginning of May Prof. Benedetta Ubertazzi and I have been contacted by the **University of Luxembourg – Department of Law**, because they are interested in the Steppo Project and we have been invited to speak at the Conference, which will be in June 5^o and 6ht, title of the conference: **EPPO THE WAY FORWARD: NEW POTENTIALS AND CHALLENGES**. They are interested in the Vr serious game and I will go there with a student of the last year, Veronica Carbone and we will show the game.
- Possibly I will try to speak in person with **Mrs. Laura Kovesi** , perhaps I will have a chance to have a meeting, so that it could be easier to promote our game.

UPDATING: MEETING 15.06.2023

- **5 and 6 June:** Participation of **me and the student Veronica Carbone** to the closing conference of **the Luxembourg University** on EPPO (title: **EPPO THE WAY FORWARD – NEW POTENTIALS AND CHALLENGES**)
- Morning: talks at the EPPO Headquarter with **Mr. Petr Klement (EPP Czechia)** and **Mr Danilo Ceccarelli (EPP Italy)** - A meeting will follow in September with the presentation in front of the **College** to discuss on how to begin the collaboration;
- The Vr game has been presented by **me and Veronica Carbone** on the following day and it has been highly appreciated and many scholars , professors and also magistrates have asked many questions about it;
- Two more interviews on the widening of the field of competence will follow: the representant of the **Dutch Minister Mr Nicholas Franssen** and the Professor of the University of Catania, **Mrs. Grazia Maria Vagliasindi**

UPDATING: MEETING 15.06.2023



UPDATING: MEETING 15.06.2023





12. BANKING INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL AUTHORITIES SUBCOMMITTEE

CHAIR: DANIELE ALESSANDRO LUISON



UPDATES - MAY/JUNE 2023

- **Updates on EPPO's investigations related to Banking and Financial Institutions in Italy:**
 - 5 May 2023, Italy: EPPO seizes €700 000 in investigation into fraud involving funds for organic farming;
 - 25 May 2023, Italy: EPPO seizes €20 million in investigation into Palermo's water service company.

UPDATES - MAY/JUNE 2023

- **5 May 2023, Italy: EPPO seizes €700 000 in investigation into fraud involving funds for organic farming**

The European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO) in Palermo (Italy) has seized over €700 000 in assets against seven suspects and their companies, in an investigation into fraud involving national and EU agricultural funding aimed at supporting the conversion to organic farming.

The crimes under investigation are aggravated fraud for obtaining public funds, and false statements in a public deed. The suspects are believed to have presented false certifications concerning the requirements to be awarded the non-repayable funds – thus misleading the paying agency, which granted the sums now subject to the freezing order.

The total amount obtained by the suspects was €713 377.61, granted by the Calabrian Region under the partly EU-funded Rural Development Programme (RDP) 2014/2020. In order to recover the damages to the national and EU budgets, the Italian Financial Police, on behalf of the EPPO, has seized the bank accounts and real estate of the suspects under investigation.

UPDATES - MAY/JUNE 2023

- **25 May 2023, Italy: EPPO seizes €20 million in investigation into Palermo's water service company**

On behalf of the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO), the Italian Financial Police (Guardia di Finanza) have executed a freezing order of up to €20 million, in an investigation involving the public company that operates the water service in Palermo (Italy).

The investigation began after the European Investment Bank (EIB) filed a complaint with the EPPO, regarding a loan agreement granted to the public company of the municipality of Palermo responsible for managing the drinking water distribution and the sewage system for the entire province.

In 2020, the public company received a loan of €20 million from the EIB, funded by the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI) and guaranteed by the European Union. The loan agreement, signed on 20 December 2017, concerned an investment program for drinking water production and wastewater treatment.

PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR JULY 2023

- Study and analysis of future prospects with a view to gradual harmonization.
- Updates on new EPPO's investigations in Italy



13. AUDIT INSTITUTIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

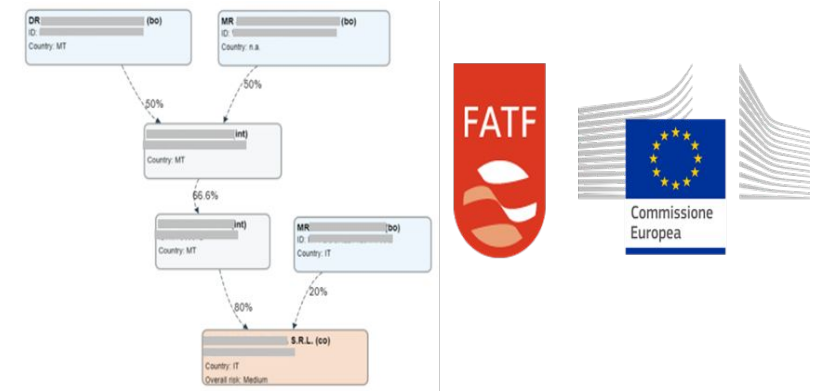
CHAIR: ANTONIO FORTAREZZA

MEMBER: CESARE MONTAGNA

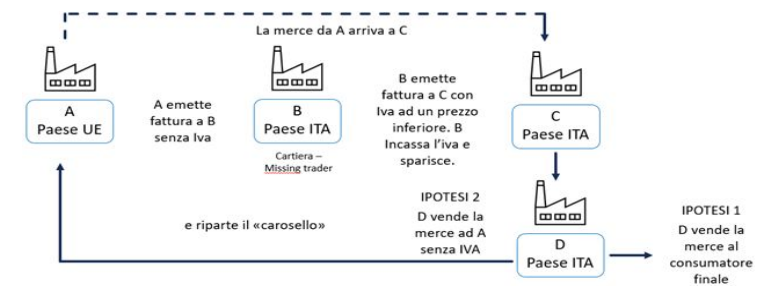


Proposed activities BEFORE THE END OF June 2023

- Prepare an article on the beneficial owner in the EU



- Prepare an article on carousel fraud in the EU



Info

- **BENEFICIAL OWNER:** a beneficial owner is a natural person or persons who ultimately owns or controls an interest in a legal entity or arrangement, such as a company, a trust, or a foundation. It is particularly effective in a strategy to combat the phenomena of money laundering, to be able to bring directly to one or more natural persons the sphere of real interest in reference to the capital used and transiting in the territory of the European Union, so as to weigh its angularly strategic aspects, such as origin or ultimate purpose
- **MISSING TRADE FRAUD:** Missing trader fraud (also called missing trader intra-community fraud or MTIC fraud) involves the theft of Value Added Tax (VAT) from a government by fraudsters who exploit VAT rules, most commonly the European Union VAT rules which provide that the movement of goods between member states is VAT-free



14. HIGH SCHOOL SUBCOMMITTEE

CHAIR: ALESSANDRO FUMAGALLI



ACTIVITIES FOR MAY 2023

From the reports of the students and the call with the PCTO representatives it emerged:

- ❑ a positive assessment of the project
 - for the topics covered
 - for the method of carrying out the lessons
- ❑ feedback through a blog dated May 25th
- ❑ proposals for STEPPO PCTO 2023
 - more face-to-face meetings
 - "dedicated" lessons and moments
 - subcommittee membership

PROPOSED ACTIVITIES FOR JUNE – JULY 2023

- Finalization of proposals for STEPPO 2023



15. REAL ESTATE SUBCOMMITTEE

CHAIR: MARINA PALMULLI



ACTIVITIES FOR APRIL-MAY 2023

- Contact with colleagues of other companies and Association during events
- Planning meeting with 1 of the 2 big National Association (Milan level for the moment) and a Training school for Agents.

PROPOSED ACTIVITIES FOR JUNE-JULY 2023

- Ongoing preparation of a new article on risk exposure of real estate area and new actions in the EU involving cooperation with EPPO
- Report on meetings with Association and Training School for RE Agents

THANK YOU!

