





## EPPO and EU Law

(Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence - EPPONFI)

February Steering Committee meeting

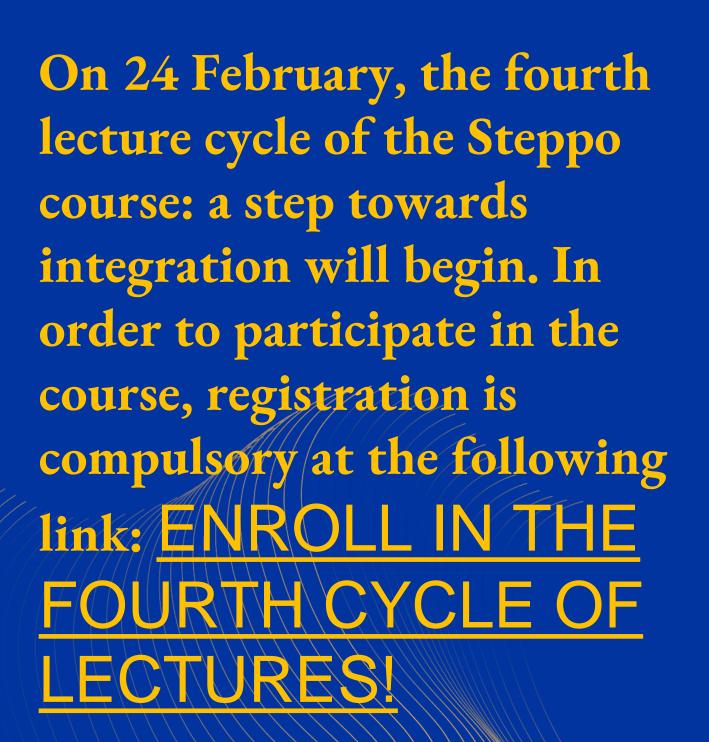
CHAIR: Benedetta Ubertazzi, Sofia Mazza, Giulia Varisco, Marta

Ramat













## THE EPPO AND EU LAW: A STEP FORWARD ININTEGRATION

All classes will also be available online.

The link will be provided on the Steppo website: <a href="https://www.steppo-eulaw.com/">https://www.steppo-eulaw.com/</a>

#### Topic 1 - THE ROAD TO EPPO

 $\mathbf{24}^{\mathbf{th}}$  February 2025 | 16:30-18:30 | Law school building: Room 116-05

### OPENING CONFERENCE: THE EPPO AS A STEP FORWARD IN INTEGRATION

Launch of the activities of the EPPO, and the contribution of the Italian Financial Police (Guardia diFinanza)

<u>Participants</u>: Costanza Honorati (tbc); Benedetta Ubertazzi; Andrea Venegoni (online); Oliviero Mazza; Lorenzo Salazar; Lt. Col. Ivan Nardo.

VR Steppo Serious Game to simulate financial investigation - Date

Participants: Veronica Carbone, Iman Khodri (online), Luca Pieri.

25<sup>th</sup> February 2025 | 16:30-18:30| Law school building: Room U6-26

The relationship between the EPPO and the CJEU Participants: Benedetta Ubertazzi; Marta Ramat.

 $\mathbf{26^{th}}$  February 2025 | 16:30-18:30 | Law school building: Room U6-42

Why we did (do) need an EU prosecutor

Participants: Benedetta Ubertazzi; Claudio Palazzoni.

#### Topic 2 - THE EPPO

#### 03<sup>rd</sup> March 2025 | 16:30-18:30 | Law school building: Room U6-05

EPPO: structure and in-depth analysis of the problems related to applicable law

Participants: Benedetta Ubertazzi; Ilaria Sticchi (online).

04<sup>th</sup> March 2025 | 16:30-18:30 | Law school building: Room U6-26

How enhanced cooperation on the EPPO began, and paid off.

<u>Participants</u>: Benedetta <u>Ubertazzi</u>; Serena Cacciatore (online); Stefano Castellani: Ludovica Tavassi.

05<sup>th</sup> March 2025 | 16:30-18:30 | Law school building: Room U6-42

The EPPO functioning: a practical overview of the judicial cooperation and of the role of the European Prosecutor.

Participants: Benedetta Ubertazzi; Oliviero Mazza.

## <u>Topic 3 - THE EPPO AND NATIONAL AUTHORITIES:</u> <u>CHALLENGES</u>

#### AND OPPORTUNITIES

#### 10<sup>th</sup> March 2025 | 16:30-18:30 | Law school building: Room U6-05

Analysis of EPPO regulation: rules on applicable law, on judicial remedies and on conflict of jurisdiction between EPPO and Member States' public prosecutors - Case-law of EU Court of justice

<u>Participants</u>: Benedetta <u>Ubertazzi</u>; Enrico Traversa.

#### 11<sup>th</sup> March 2025 | 16:30-18:30 | Law school building: Room U6-26

Contrasto alle frodi IVA transnazionali e doganali: azioni di intervento delle Amministrazioni fiscali nazionali e strategia comunitaria

Participants: Benedetta Ubertazzi; Gabriele Liberatore







We invite you to view the entire programme on the website and, if you are not present, please let us know if you would like to speak in one of the lectures in the fourth cycle.

Please spread the news of the start of the course as widely as possible.

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## EPPO and EU Law

# (Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence - EPPONFI) Interview Committee

CHAIR: Serena Cacciatore



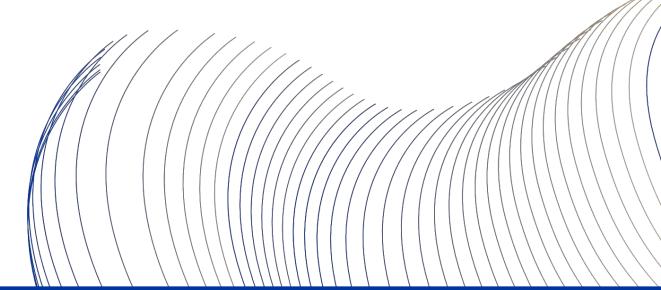




On January 17th we met with the Interviews committee

We have scheduled future interviews

And put forward new ideas and organized the work











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AL BOARD PARTICIPA

PATE RE

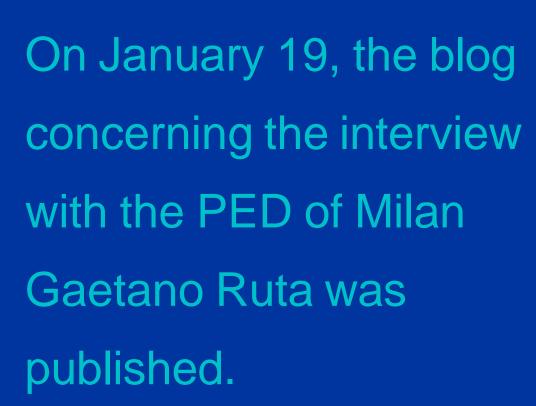
DURCES CASE LAW

Media resources

La Procura Europea in Azione: Intervista a Gaetano Ruta sulle Sfide della Cooperazione Transnazionale

Gen 19, 2025 | Interviews Subcommittee, Media Subcommitee



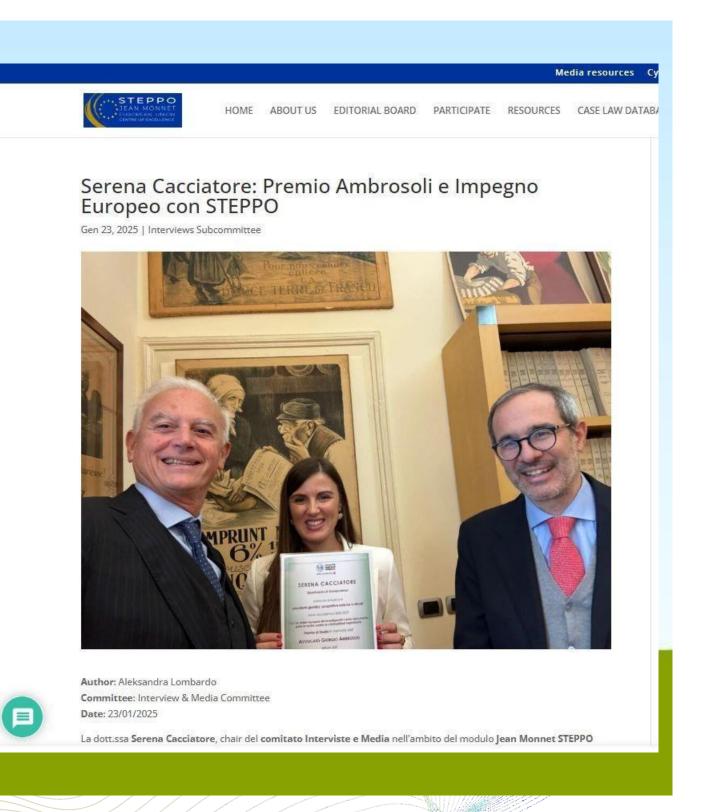












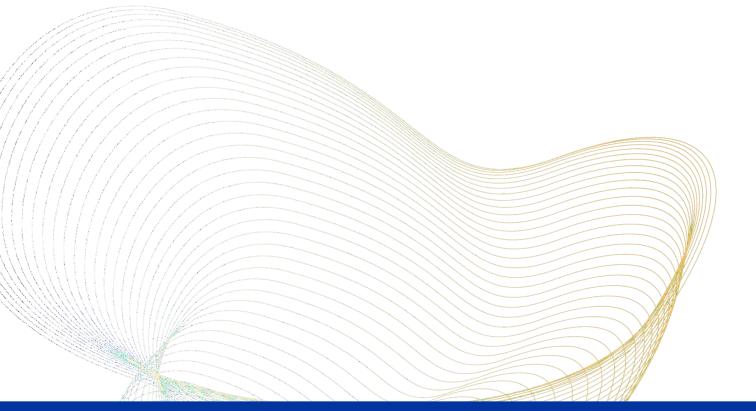
On January 23rd, another blog was published concerning an award on a doctoral thesis on the fight against organized crime by the Giorgio Ambrosoli Association.







We are working on the blog that will be published in February concerning the interview with the PED of Turin STEFANO CASTELLANI held this month.



Thank you for your attention





## Game Committee

CHAIR: Fabrizia Bemer – Veronica Carbone SUPPORT: Francesca Fragassi

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## **Current activities**

Organization of the "Role Play" with high school students and the Academy of the Guardia di Finanza, scheduled for March 25th.

Developments in VR game.







### "ROLE PLAY"



#### Save the date



**February 10th** – Kick-off call

- Meeting with project participants
- Discussion on organization and case selection



March 25th - Final debate & verdict

- Concluding discussions
- Jury deliberation and final verdict
- Judges: Dr. Bemer & Dr. Luison







#### **VR GAME**



## Final Delivery of VR GAME STEPPO 2 & Upcoming Presentation

- February 4th The final delivery of VR GAME STEPPO 2 has been successfully completed!
- **Upcoming Event**: on **February 24<sup>th</sup>**, during the opening conference of the STEPPO Course, there will be a **brief introduction to the new game**.

### Speakers:

- Veronica Carbone (Law Student)
- Luca Pieri (PhD, MIBTEC)







# EPPO and EU LAW

(Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence-EPPONFI)

PROSECUTORS COMMITTEE

**CHAIR: Pietro Suchan** 

**SUPPORT: Corrado Rossitto** 







# GENERAL UPDATE

Abbiamo scritto e pubblicato un blog sui provvedimenti dei Tribunali di Catania Palermo, Milano che affermano una giurisprudenza consolidata sull'interpretazione del Regolamento(1939\2017)











Le sentenze dei rispettivi Tribunali di Catania, Palermo e Milano, mostrano una giurisprudenza consolidita e univoca, dimostrandosi centrale nell'interpretazione del regolamento che istituisce la Procura Europea (1939\2017). Le decisioni dei Tribunali mostrano come la questione di competenza tra Procura Nazionale e L'EPPO è una questione interna sollevabile solo con il conflitto di competenza

# PALERMO, CATANIA E MILANO AFFERMANO UNA GIURISPRUDENZA CONSOLIDATA







## **NEXT STEPS**



Il comitato Prosecutors pubblicherà un blog su una recente sentenza EPPO. Inoltre, ci teniamo a ricordare la conferenza che si terrà a Bologna in data 18 febbraio. Dal titolo:"il ruolo di EPPO nella difesa degli interessi finanziari dell'Unione Europea, la collaborazione con le Procure Nazionali, le nuove sfide, in un contesto di crescenti crimini informatici" dove parteciperà e dialogherà anche il procuratore Pietro Suchan







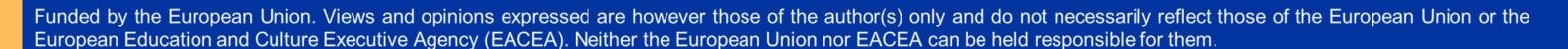
# Cybersecurity Strategic Committee

CHAIR: Prof. Marco Bacini

VICE-CHAIR: Giordana Ambrosino, Alessio Vergnano

SUPPORT: Francesca Fragassi

MEMBERS: Marzia Catino, Aleksandra Lombardo, Nadia Mangiardi Fontana









# **Current Activities**

## Monthly Highlights: Blog and Key Activities

- Bicocca Privacy Day
- Meeting with Chair Prof. Bacini
- Nadia Mangiardi Fontana's thesis Blog

## **Upcoming Blogs:**

- Cybersecurity e diritti fondamentali, Alexandra Lombardo's Blog.
- Prof Marco Bacini's Blog on Cyber Intelligence.
- La Protezione dei dati personali e EPPO, Alessio Vergnano's Blog.



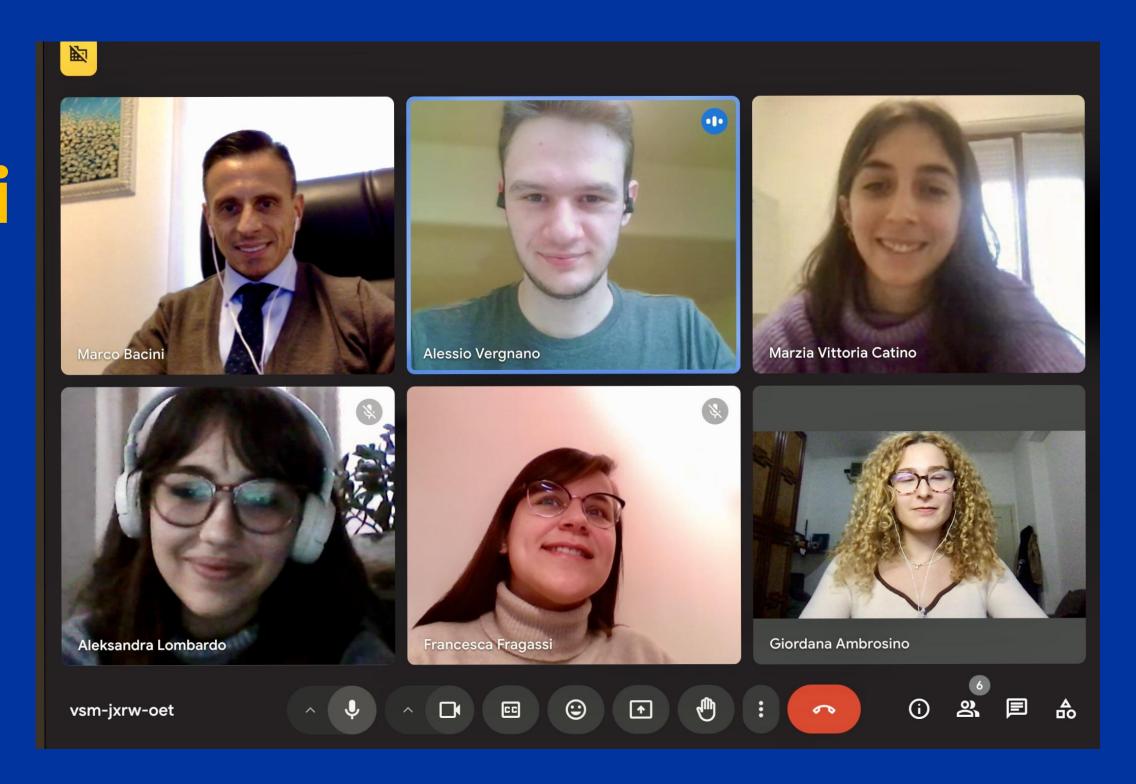




# Meeting with our Chair Prof. Marco Bacini

27/01/2025

During the last meeting he commended us for our dedication and hard work, also he shared some details about several projects he's involved in at the moment.

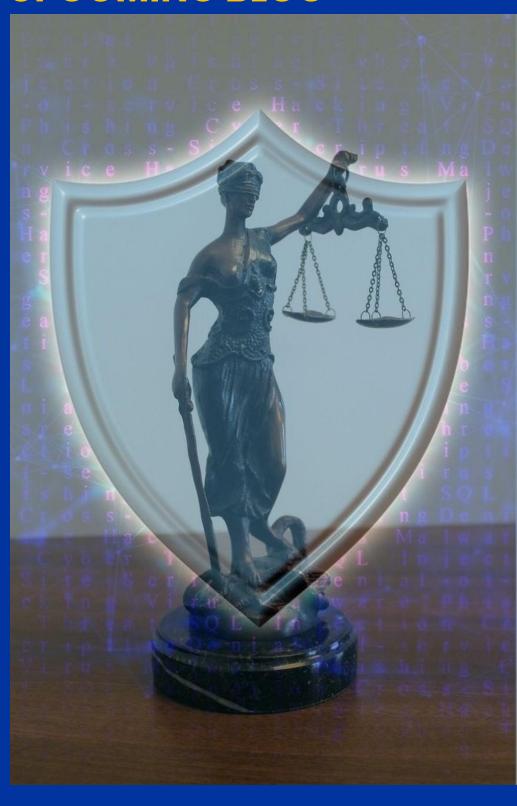








### **UPCOMING BLOG**



Blog: **"Cybersecurity and Fundamental Rights"**Author: **Aleksandra Lombardo.** 

- The importance of recognizing cybersecurity as a fundamental right.
- Summary of key regulations.
- Recent EU initiatives.
- Insights from the "Cybersecurity and Cyber Rights" conference by SERICS Foundation.







#### **UPCOMING BLOG**



Blog: "Data protection and Eppo"

Author: Alessio Vergnano.

- Analysis of personal data processing by EPPO.
- Overview of recent rulings by the CJEU.
- Insights shared by Professor Ubertazzi during her presentation at the Bicocca Privacy Day, organized by RED OPEN, a University of Milan-Bicocca spin-off.

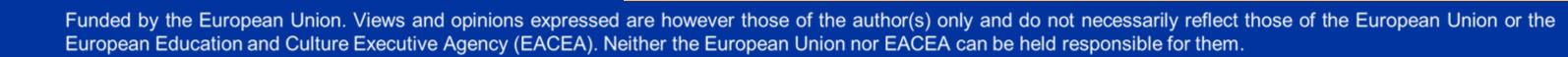






## Judicial Bodies Committee

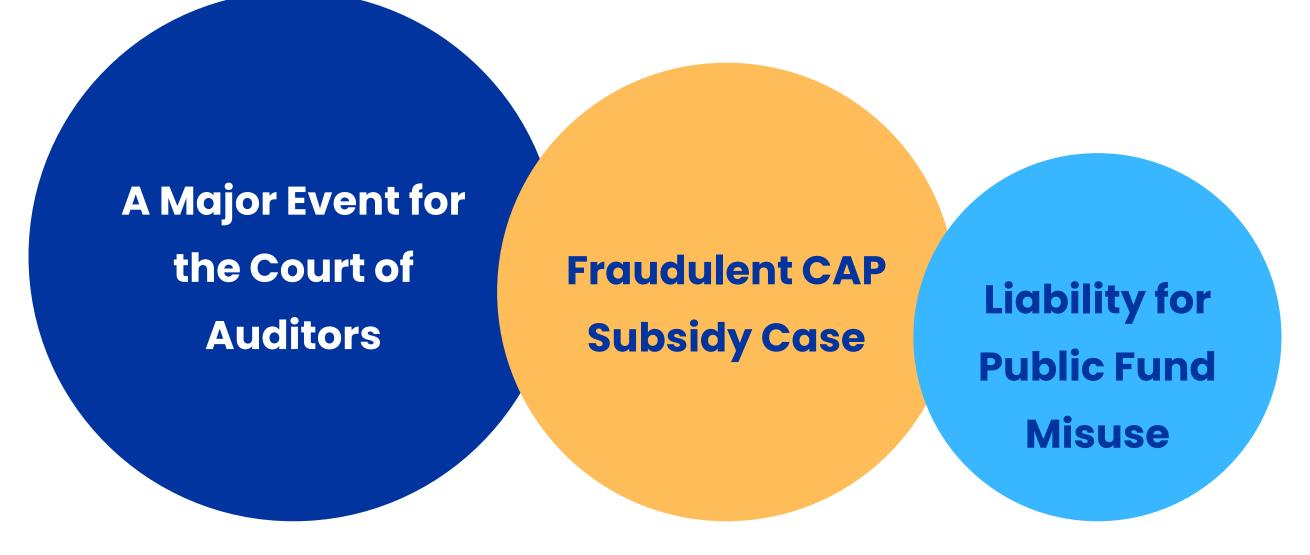
Chair: Arturo ladecola











# General Update

- Two New Court Rulings on Financial Accountability
- A Major Announcement for the Court of Auditors





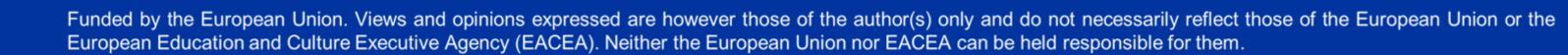


# Corte dei conti, Sez. Giur. Marche, 13 gennaio 2025, n. 2



- ☐ A farmer and an intermediary were condemned to compensate for the <u>damage around 13,000 euros –</u> caused by the <u>unlawful obtaining of a subsidy</u> under the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP).
- ☐ Subsidies obtained fraudulently must be fully refunded, according to both European and national legislation.
- ☐ The farmer had <u>falsified a declaration of starting an</u> <u>agricultural activity</u> and provided fictitious land rental contracts
- ☐ His subsidies were <u>unlawfully transferred</u> to third parties and not returned upon request.













Corte dei conti, Sez. Giur. Piemonte, 28 gennaio 2025, n. 6

- ☐ <u>Liability</u> of private individuals <u>receiving public funds</u> are considered co-participants in public institutional activities.
- ☐ They can be **held accountable for financial damages**.
- ☐ Liability applies to both beneficiary companies and their representative
- ☐ Covers improper or unlawful management of public resources and diversion of funds from their intended purposes
- ☐ This <u>principle is well-established</u> in the rulings of the Court of Cassation and the Court of Auditors.







## The Committee Brings Attention to a Major Event!

The Inauguration of the Judicial Year 2025 at the Corte dei Conti

The event will take place on the 14th of February.







# EPPO and EU Law

(Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence - EPPONFI)

Real Estate Transactions Committee

CHAIR: Marina Palmulli







# New Organization and Planned activities

New members in the committee that will help in projects and coordination of activities (subject to exams season)

We made a meet at the end of January in which we planned to check information coming from EPPO and other committee blog articles to find connection with real estate

Case Benko: we are trying to understand why Austrian Prosecutors evoid to cooperate with other countries (i.e. Italy) in this international case (why not







## Methodology



Involved in research of news and informations



At the moment,
when study allows to
do it



Cooperation with other members and other committees

Results

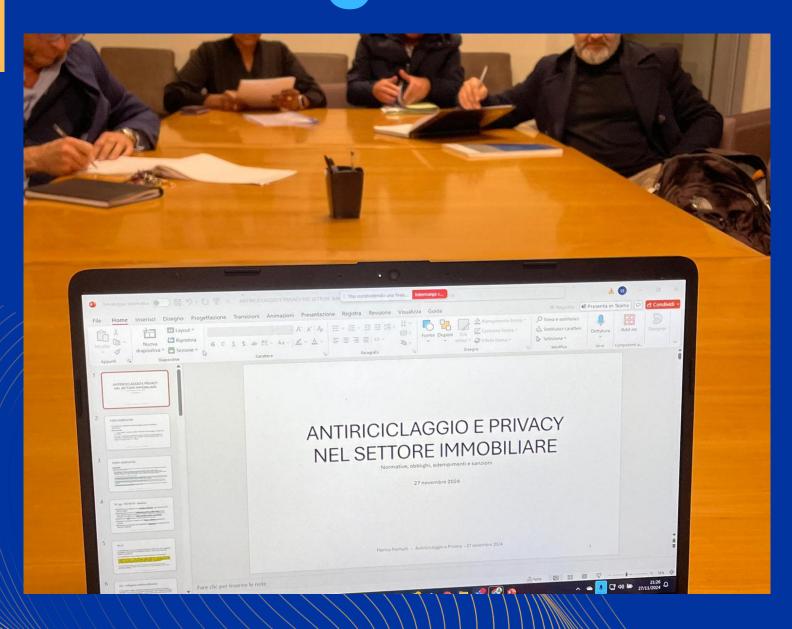
More blogs and contacts







# New article for blog



Experience during lesson in a training school for Real estate Agent

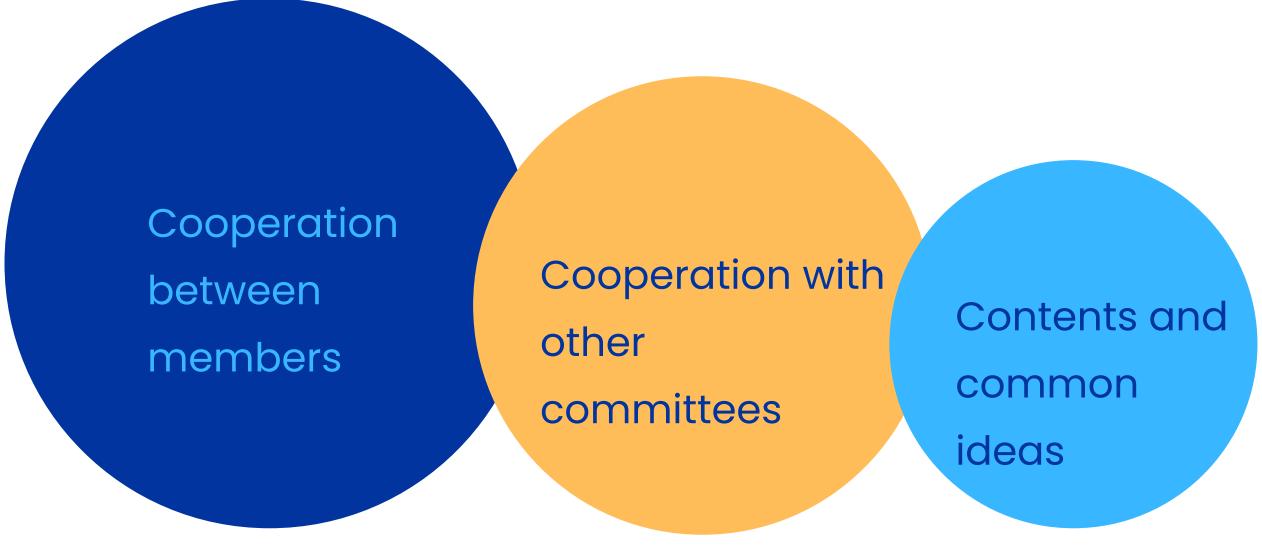
The channeled message during lessons is not of a duty, but of an opportunity to work in a better way in an official market where, without the criminal influence, real estate agent can operate better.

The response of student is of interest in the subject and ready to explore the opportunity EPPO represent considering the global market an international playaround for their careers









# Which is the goal







## EPPO and EU Law

(Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence - EPPONFI)

Agricultural and environmental frauds

committee

CHAIR: Esther Muniz Espada

VICE-CHAIR: Samuel Bolis

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## Agricultural and environmental frauds Committee

## **MEMBERS:**

### **CHAIR:**

Dra. Esther Muñiz Espada

Universidad de Valladolid

### **VICE-CHAIR:**

Avv. Samuel Bolis

Ph.D. in European Criminal Law, Lawyer and former Lt. Colonel at Guardia di Finanza

### **MEMBERS:**

- Nicola Prota, Confederazioni Italiana Agricoltori
- > Rocho Perteguer, vocal de medioambiente del Colegio Nacional de Registradores
  - > Annalisa Trabbia, Law student
  - > Tarikwa Lanzara, PhD candidate
- > Natalia Andrea Rossi Raggio, Law student
  - > Angelo Salimbeni, Law student
    - > Alessia Satta, Law student
  - > Giulia Varisco, Law student
  - > Anthony Zhilkin, Law student

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# GENERAL UPDATE:



The Committee is undertaking a scientific study to explore the potential extension of the EPPO jurisdiction to include environmental crimes.

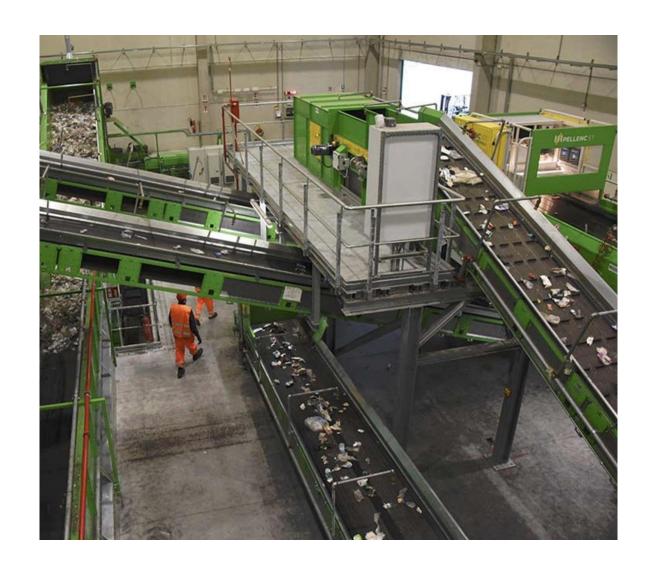
This initiative reflects growing concerns over the cross-border nature of environmental offenses and the need for a coordinated European approach to combat them effectively.

The findings of this research will be officially presented during the final conference scheduled for April.









https://www.eppo.europa.eu/en/media/news/bulgaria-two-indicted-fraud-involving-waste-treatment-facilities-worth-eu346-million

## BLOG OF THE MONTH:

New blog about the EPPO investigation in Bulgaria:

- ➤ Two Bulgarian executives were indicted for fraudulently obtaining €3.46 million in EU funds.
- ➤ They falsified a team member's credentials to secure a €412,000 advance payment.
- > The fraud was discovered in 2023, leading to contract termination and repayment.
- > EPPO collaborated with Bulgarian police to investigate and prosecute the case.







## EPPO and EU Law

(Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence - EPPONFI)

Art and Cultural Heritage crimes

Committee

## **CHAIRS:**

Andrzej Jakubowski

Alicja Jagielska-Burduk

Lucas Lixinski

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# EPPO& Cultural Heritage Crimes

# GENERAL UPDATE: New blogs

The Investigation by the European Public Prosecutor's office into suspected subsidy fraud involving the restoration of a Church in Bulgaria



Author: Francesca Marasi

Committee: EPPO & Cultural Heritage Crimes

Date: 16/01/2025



### The role of the EPPO in the possible corruption and misuse of EU funds in Bulgaria's Capital



Author: Francesca Marasi

Committee: Art & Cultural Heritage crimes

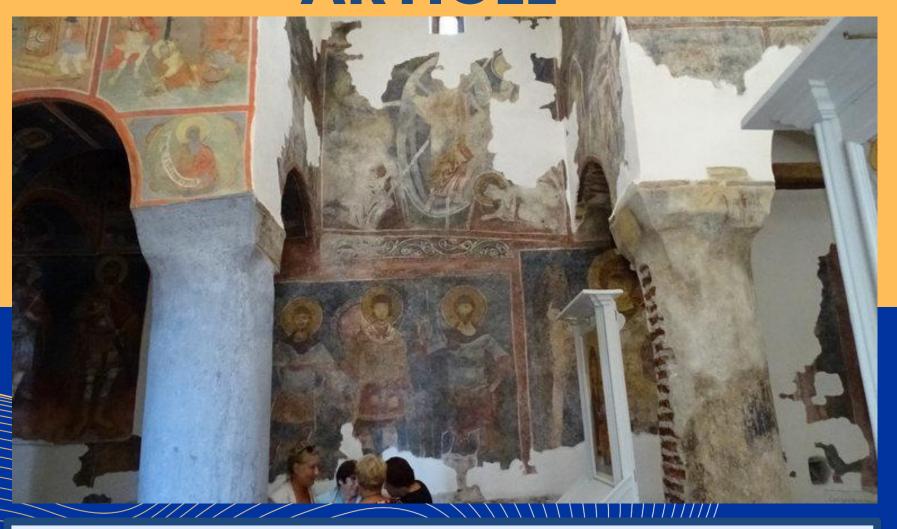
Date: 16/01/2025







### RESEARCH ARTICLE



Indeed, the nature of the offences under scrutiny pertains not only to the misuse of EU funds, but also to the potential destruction or damage of heritage sites and artefacts.

The team will undertake a more profound investigation into the issues that have a direct impact on the safeguarding of cultural heritage. This encompasses the allocation of funds for the conservation of historic monuments











Asia-Pacific Research Forum for ICH Safeguarding International Conference

#### **New Frontiers of** Research for Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage

platform for researchers working on ICH, both within and outsi the framework of the UNESCO's 2003 Convention, to gather in one place and engage in critical yet constructive discussions and





#### 13-15 February 2025 10:15-17:00

 Conference Room 5 (2F) National Museum of Ethnology

- International Research Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region (IRCI)
- National Museum of Ethnology

#### ★ 3 KEYNOTE LECTURES by

- Secretary of the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, UNESCO
- Michelle STEFANO Folklife Specialist, American Folklife Center, Library of Congress, USA
- Harriet DEACON Lecturer, Centre of Excellence for Data Science, Artificial Intelligence and Modelling (DAIM) & Research Associate, Wilberforce Institute, University of Hull, UK



- ICH Transmission and Pedagogies
- Community Empowerment and Inclusivity
- Migration and Displacement
- Legal Framework for ICH and SDGs
- ICH and New Technologies

SPECIAL SESSION for Early Career Researchers

#### REGISTRATION

We welcome both ON-SITE and ONLINE participants.

ON-SITE participants



12 February 2025



Registration required, no registration fee



International Research Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region (IRCI) Address: Sakai City Museum. 2-cho, Mozusekiun-cho, Sakai-ku, Sakai City, Osaka 590-0802, Japan

<u>http://www.irci.jp</u> 
<u>irci@nich.go.jp</u>

## International Conference in OSAKA

Professor Bendetta Ubertazzi, Sherine al Lucas Lixinski Shallah. Diogo Machado partecipated actively International Conference in Intangible Cultural Heritage

#### LINK TO THE LEAFLET:

https://www.irci.jp/wp\_files/wpcontent/uploads/2025/ 01/irci\_2025Feb\_intlconference\_flyerprogramme\_\_\_E.pd

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# Institute of Peace and Development at Universite Cote d'Azur

Sherine al Shallah attended the Rentree Solenelle at the Institute of Peace and Development at Universite Cote d'Azur on 16 January, which featured a keynote by ICJ judge Ronny Abrams.







#### **FUTURE ACTIVITIES:**



Contribution to work of the ILA Committee on Safeguarding of Cultural Heritage in Armed Conflicts:

The fight against illicit trafficking of cultural objects.



Contribution of the EPPO teaching programme at Bicocca
Andrzej Jakubowski will participate in the last module of the programme in April 2025



A post on the alleged misappropriation of funds for heritage research, Croatia.







CHAIR: Cesare Montagna

VICE-CHAIR: Marzia Catino

#### MEMBERS:

- Marzia Catino
- Mattia Rossi















#### LATEST ARTICLES:

• "COURT OF AUDITOR'S JUDGMENT (SEZ.MOLISE) ON THE JURISDICTION OF EPPO"

WITH JUDGMENT N.32/2024 THE COURT OF AUDITORS (SEZ.MOLISE) SENTENCED THE SOLE DIRECTOR OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY TO PAY THE SUM OF EURO 19,200,60 FOR THE UNLAWFUL USE OF PUBLIC FUNDS (EUROPEAN AND NATIONAL)

• "REGISTER OF BENEFICIAL OWNERS: THE POINT ON THE DIFFICULT PATH TO ITS ADOPTION"

BLOCK ON THE OBLIGATION TO COMMUNICATE THE BENEFICIAL OWNERS IN THE RELEVANT REGISTER FOLLOWING A REQUEST TO THE EUROPEAN COURT OF JUSTICE

#### **NEXT ARTICLES:**

- "BLOG ON THE CONFERENCE OF ACCOUNTANTS"
- "COURT OF AUDITOR'S JUDGMENT (SEZ.PUGLIA) ON THE JURISDICTION OF EPPO"















#### BLOG ON THE CONFERENCE OF ACCOUNTANTS"



On November 8, 2024, a conference was held at Palazzo della Borsa in Genoa on the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO) and its competences in VAT and customs duties.

In particular, the main fraud numbers were presented, and the relevant European public prosecutors were detailed. It was clarified how the prosecutor's case file can be opened, where the crime is committed, and the interaction with the various European prosecutors who conduct investigations based on their own territory

Senova: convegno organizzato dall'ordine lei commercialisti di Genova sui controli jurisdizionali di EPPO con riferimento ll'iva e ai diritti doganali.

In'occasione di confronto per fare emergere e competenze e le strategie alla base di Eppo". Il Cesare Montagna

Il convegno dell'8 novembre 2024 che si è svolto presso l'elegante cornice di palazzo della Borsa a Genova, dal titolo "LA PROCURA EUROPEA (EPPO) E LE NUOVE COMPETENZE SUI CONTROLLI GIURISDIZIONALI E TECNICI CON RIFERIMENTO ALL'IVA E AI DIRITTI DOGANALI" è stato incentrato in primis sulla genesi stessa della Procura Europa e successivamente sulla descrizione dei controli da questa svolti in mento alle violazioni in materia di IVA ed alle violazioni sull'utilizzo di Fondi Europei. In particolare sono stati illustrati i numeri delle frodi principali e sono stati illustrati i numeri delle frodi principali e sono stati illustrati i numeri delle frodi principali e sono stati illustrato come possa aprirsi il fascicolo della procura, dove viene commesso il reato e l'interazione con le varie procure europee che effettuano indagini sulla base del proprio territorio. Nel corso del convegno sono state illustrate tutte queste interazioni che rendono più efficace la repressione dei reati, accanto all'attività svolta dalle procure dei vari stati europei, tenendo in considerazione i vari impatti che Eppo ha avuto a l'avello diuridico su scala europea.

Ill Convegno è stato inoltre occasione pe ricordare il Dott. Antonio Fortarezza, caro amio ed un appassionato delle tematiche in questione il quale purtroppo si e' spento pochi giorni primi l'asciando un vuoto incredibile in tutti noi.



diffondendo con entusiasmo e passione l'utilità e le funzioni di questo importante strumento di presidio di legalità. In particolare, nelle vesti di direttore del comitato editoriale ha contribuito in modo decisivo al blog e alle pubblicazioni di Eppo e alla loro diffusione. A lui sono andati i ringraziamenti degli organizzatori, con la promessa di portare avanti la sua eredità per continuare la lotta agli abusi e ai reati.









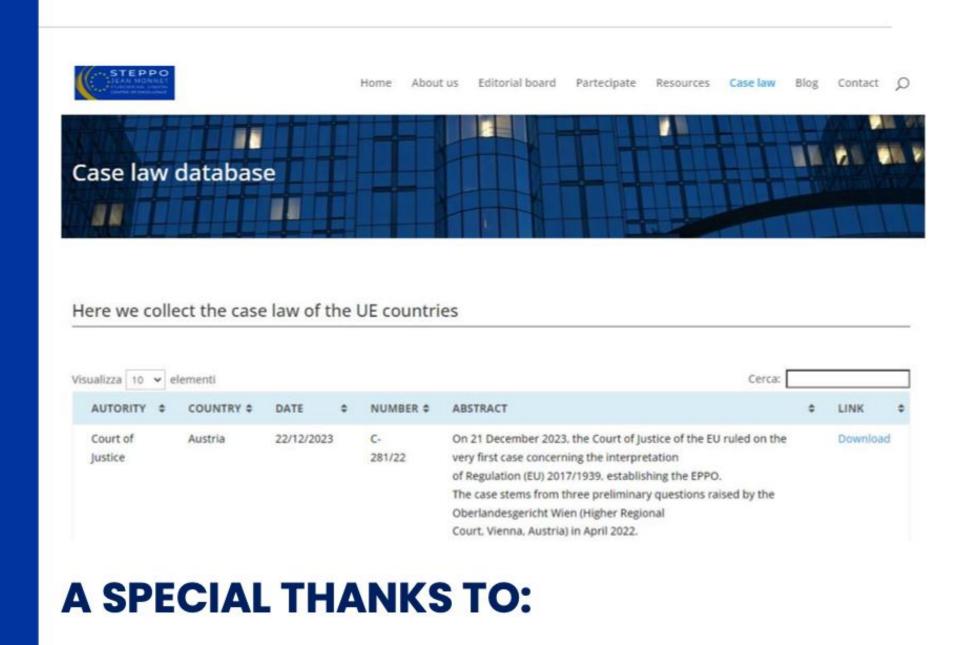


#### CASE LAW

#### NEW IMPLEMENTATION

we are continuing to implement our database with new case law.

The data relating to the number of accesses to our blog is constantly growing



#### Cesare Montagna

Data base case law Area managers Editorial Board Steppo





## Collaborate Committee

**Chair: Lorenzo Salazar** 

Vice-Chair: Federica Gentilini











# General Update:

- Temptative calendar 2025/26 of the ECP appointment:
- Spring 2025 publication of the call for the European Chief
   Prosecutor (ECP);
- 2. Before Summer 2025 scrutiny of the applications for ECP;

- 3. Fall 2025 hearing of the candidates for ECP;
- 4. End of 2025 transmission of the shortlist for ECP to the European Parliament and to the Council;
- 5. Beginning of 2026 hearings of the candidates European Prosecutors for 7 participating MS;

- 6. Spring 2026 transmission of the rankings to the Council;
- 7. By July 2026 appointment of the new Eps;
- 8. By Summer 2026 appointment of the new ECP.











## Editorial Committee

CHAIR: CESARE MONTAGNA, MICHELE MONOPOLI, FRANCESCA VENINI

VICE-CHAIR: GIULIA VARISCO

COMUNICATION AND MARKETING MANAGER: SOFIA MAZZA







## GENERAL UPDATE

We have improved the management of information flows within the editorial staff and we progressing very well



WE'LL HAVE A COMPUTER TECHNICIAN WHO WILL HELP US WITH THE MANAGEMENT OF THE SITE AND THEREFORE THE NEWSPAPER BUSINESS WILL GREATLY IMPROVE











#### FROM 1/10/2024 TO 7/02/2025- WE HAVE PUBLISHED

## 59 ARTICLES

11 ARTICLES WERE PUBLISHED IN DECEMBER

10 ARTICLES ARE ALREADY PLANNED













#### We also recommend the following **DEBATS**

- •29.10.2024: Banking Committee and Real **Estate Committee** (connection between the two working sectors)
- •12.11.2024: Cyber Committee and Banking **Committee** (Spoofing and CEO Fraud)



La Procura Europea in Azione: Intervista a Gaetano Ruta sulle Sfide della Cooperazione Transnazionale

Gen 19, 2025 | Interviews Subcommittee, Media Subcommitee

Author: Aleksandra Lombardo



The role of the EPPO in the possible corruption and misuse of EU funds in **Bulgaria's Capital** 

Feb 5, 2025 | Art & Cultural Heritage Crimes Subcommitee

Author: Francesca Marasi Committee: Art & Cultural Heritage crimes Committee Date: 05/02/2025 The



**Provisions Of The Courts Of** Palermo, Catania, And Milan Affirm A Consolidated Jurisprudence

Gen 31, 2025 | Prosecutors Subcommittee



La lectio del Dottor TESTA intitolata "La Procura Europea e la protezione degli interessi finanziari dell'Unione Europea. Il processo di integrazione giudiziaria nelle indagini transnazionali e nuovi strumenti di raccolta delle prove in materia di frodi ai fondi UE sull'immigrazione"

Gen 13, 2025 | EPPO & Immigration

Author: Mattia Rossi Committee: EPPO & Immigration Committee Date: 13/01/2025 II 3/12/2024, l'Università







#### **EDITORIAL NOTES**

### For correct and quick publication, please:

The article must be sent (Only) in word format and must always contain:

- 1) Title
- 2) Author
- 3) Date
- 4) Name of commitee

If at least one of the data is missing the article will not be published





# EPPO and EU Law (Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence - EPPONFI) Lawyers Committee

CHAIR: Federico Mamoli, Fabrizio de Sanna VICE-CHAIR: Francesco Piepoli, Wisal Tayebi







## Activities of the month:

In the period 15 January – 10 February Avv. Federico Iacopo Mamoli represented and promoted Steppo's activities in many events organized by prominent figures in the legal field.

We published a new blog "Steppo present at the inauguration of the judicial year 2025" on our website.









Avv. Federico Iacopo Mamoli, in the period 15 January – 10 February, carried out the activities that follow:

1) He represented Steppo at the opening ceremony on 25 January 2025 in the morning at the Aula Magna of the Tribunale di Milano. That event featured speeches from several prominent figures in the legal field. The need to improve the tools in fighting corruption and any other crime was emphasized by all the speakers;

2) He was also present on behalf of Steppo in the gala dinner for the inauguration of the judicial year 2025 organized by Ordine degli Avvocati di Milano at Spazio Rubattino. That event, attended by nearly one thousand people, included notable members of the legal community. Avv. Mamoli promoted the content of Steppo with specific reference to the 2025 edition which will commence shortly and hegathered significant interest from many lawyers who expressed a desire to participate;

Chairs's activities

3) He started contacting many lawyers and professionals to inform them about Steppo 2025 edition and will implement that activity in the next ten days to get the registration of the highest number of lawyers.











### Chair's activities...

This is the contribution, for this February Steering Committee, of our chair Avv. Fabrizio de Sanna...

The European Union legislation has recently made an important step in the fight against the economic dimension of crime with the approval of Directive (EU) 2024/1260, dated April 24, 2024, concerning the recovery and confiscation of assets. Member States are required to comply with this directive by November 23, 2026.

Confiscation;

The three key aspects of this directive are:

#### Freezing;

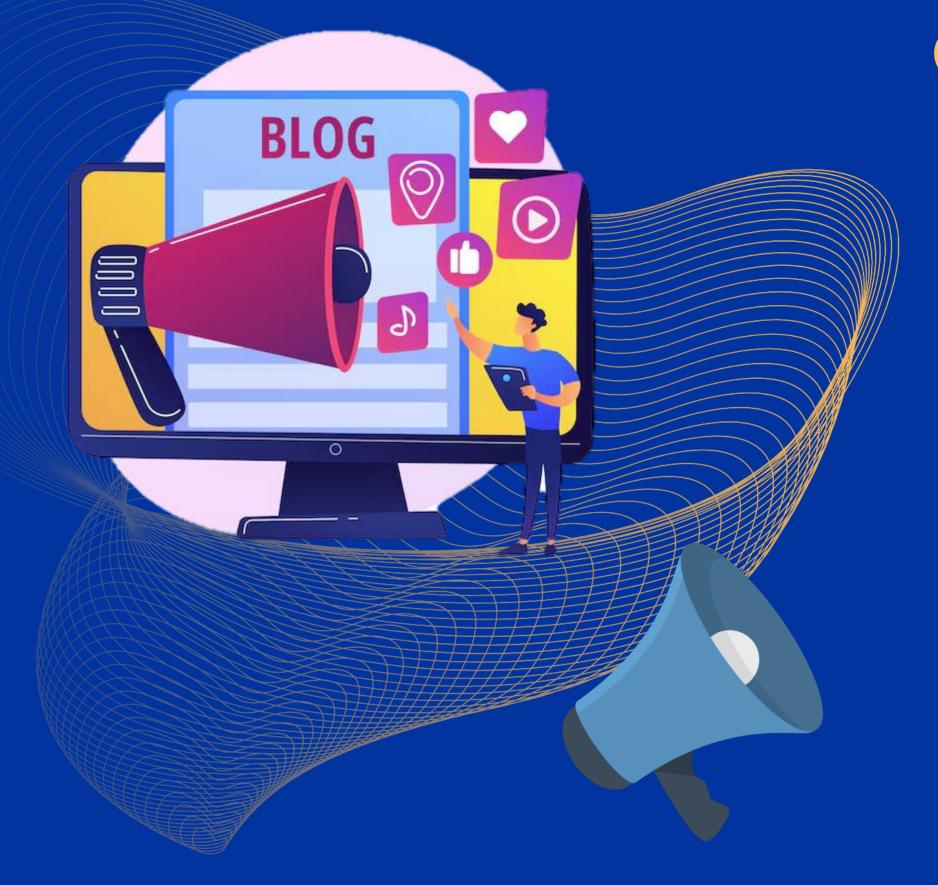
The principle of mutual recognition of seizure and confiscation orders at the European Union level, which is crucial for effectively executing these measures and recovering assets.

Confiscation refers to the expropriation of goods used or intended to commit a crime, as well as goods that are the product, profit, or proceeds of the crime. Freezing includes both immediate actions to preserve assets until a freezing order is issued, and the freezing itself, which is essentially equivalent to preventive seizure. This aims to ensure the seizure and temporary preservation of assets that may later be confiscated.









## Our newest blog...

With our newest blog we communicate that Steppo's activities have been brought to the attention of esteemed members of the judiciary world and lawyers during the 'Inauguration of the Judicial Year 2025' on 24 January 2025 at the Corte di Cassazione in Rome at the 26th Court of Appeal sites.

On our website we also added an announcement from the CNF which provides to assign 20 CF to every lawyer who will participate to the Steppo Programme 2025. More infos on our website.







## HIGH SCHOOL COMMITTEE



#### **CHAIRS**

ALESSANDRO FUMAGALLI: Civil lawyer and former headmaster of several middle and high schools

MICHELE MONOPOLI: Former Dean of Beccaria High School Milan

ANTONELLA IANNASCOLI: Mathematics and physics teacher at the Liceo

Classico Cesare Beccaria in Milan

**VERONICA CARBONE: law student** 

#### **MEMBERS**

ALESSANDRO COLOMBO, EGLE CONCINA, SAMUELE DI MARTINO, ARIANNA DUZ, BEATRICE QUAGLIA, SAMANTHA NICOLE DE GUZMAN, MARIA CHIARA CAPPELLI, FRANCESCA FRAGASSI, ADELE MINICHIELLO, SONIA M'GAYEDI, NICOLO' ELENI, GIULIA PAGANI, ANGELO SALIMBENI (support)







#### Collaborazione con la Fondazione Francesco Rava





Continua la collaborazione del comitato High School con la <u>Fondazione Rava</u> al fine di avviare, entro la fine del mese, il <u>nuovo progetto</u> destinato ai minori e ai giovani adulti autori di reato detenuti presso il <u>carcere C.</u>
Beccaria di Milano.

L'obbiettivo del progetto è quello di trasferire, attraverso un percorso fortemente personalizzato ed improntato al confronto tra tutti i partecipanti, competenze utili ai ragazzi per il loro futuro e creare al contempo opportunità di crescita personale.



#### Prossimi appuntamenti:

**25 febbraio**: partita di calcio tra gli studenti dell'università Bicocca e i giovani detenuti dell'istituto penale minorile presso il carcere C. Beccaria

**7, 21, 28 marzo**: incontri tra i ragazzi dell'High school committee e i giovani detenuti













Prenderà avvio il **24/02** il percorso PCTO offerto dall'università di Milano Bicocca agli studenti delle scuole superiori volto a loro all'avvicinamento all'organismo della Procura Europea e al contrasto della criminalità organizzata. <u>160 studenti</u>, provenienti da diversi istituti superiori di Milano e delle province adiacenti, parteciperanno a sette lezioni universitarie nell'ambito del Corso <u>STEPPO: a step forward in integration</u>.







## LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES COMMITTEE CHAIR: FLAVIA NDRIOLLARI

#### **MEMBERS:**

- Pietro Frisone
- Roberto Lupo
- Giulia Pagani
- Salvatore della Ragione
- Erica Bongiorno
- Teresa Scialla
- Gianluca di Biasi
- Andrea Sarra Fiore
- Paola dell'Orletta
- Ines Kaede Kikuchi
- Leonardo Petrozzi
- Luigi Vinciguerra
- Lukas Kuhl
- Pierangelo Seri
- Francesca Zucca
- Francesco Vitali
- Ferdinando Sorbilli







#### Latest news on Eppo results:

#### «Smoke trail» operation

On January 15, after two years of investigations, the Italian Financial Police (Guardia di Finanza of Palermo) executed 14 pre-trial detention measures in prison and 2 house arrest measures against 16 people.

The measures were ordered by the GIP of Palermo at the request of the <u>EPPO office in Palermo</u>. The suspects are accused to be members of <u>international criminal associations</u> for the purpose of <u>smuggling cigarettes</u>.







Smuggling is the transport of goods secretly, in particular the clandestine movement of goods to evade customs duties or import or export restrictions. In Italy, the reference legislation is the recent D.Lgs 141/2024 which introduced a customs reform closer to EU directives













The investigations have uncovered <u>two different</u> <u>transnational criminal organizations</u> in business relationships with each other, operating in the provinces of <u>Trapani</u>, <u>Palermo and Naples</u>.

The first criminal group directed by a Tunisian, thanks to common fishing boats, would have introduced smuggled cigarettes into the national territory, mainly from Tunisia.

The second group directed by a man from Palermo, through brokers located in Naples, would have purchased large quantities of tobacco from <u>North Africa</u> and <u>Eastern Europe</u>, which were stored in warehouses located in areas with a high crime density and then distributed for clandestine retail sale.

Cooperation with EPPO offices in Germany, Slovenia, Bulgaria, Croatia and Romania was crucial to the investigation.

#### **Investigation data**

- A. 7 people were arrested in the act of smuggling;
- B. 14 people are in pre-trial detention in prison;
- C. 2 people are under house arrest;
- D. 22 tons of cigarettes were seized;
- E. 4 million euros is the estimated illicit profit;
- F. 850 thousand euros is the damage caused to the EU, equal to unpaid duties.

The investigation also ascertained a disproportion between the assets available to the suspects and their earning capacity. For this reason, the preventive seizure of assets belonging to the suspects worth approximately EUR 1 million was requested.







## EPPO and EU Law

(Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence - EPPONFI)
Investigations and activities committee

CHAIR: Filip Siroky

VICE-CHAIR: Samuel Bolis

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# Investigations and Activities Committee MEMBERS:

**CHAIR:** 

**Dr. Filip Siroky**:

expert investigator at the European Public Prosecutor's Office in Luxemburg.

VICE-CHAIR:

**PhD Samuel Bolis:** 

Ph.D. in European Criminal Law,
Lawyer and former Lt. Colonel at
Guardia di Finanza.

**MEMBERS**:

- > Iman Khodri: Law student
- > Sandra Grabmeier: Law student
- > Annalisa Trabbia: Law student

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## BLOGS OF THE

MONTH:





- 1) Fraud in the Aquaculture Sector: An Illegal Scheme Uncovered by EPPO in Italy:
- Nine people and five Italian companies defrauded €1.4 million in EU aquaculture funds;
- They used fake documents to obtain grants for projects that never started;
- Authorities seized €4.5 million in assets and issued precautionary measures.
- EPPO worked with the Guardia di Finanza and the Capitaneria di Porto of Foggia.











## 2) OPERATION "MOBY DICK": THE €520 MILLION TAX FRAUD REVEALING CONNECTIONS AMONG EUROPEAN MAFIA

The focus of the blog were:

- Mafia and financial crimes the acknowledgment that mafias are deeply involved in tax fraud and economic crime;
- Laura Kovesi speech she highlighted how "Moby Dick" operation exposed mafia infiltration into the EU's economic system and the need for stronger European legal tools to combat it;
- **EU cooperation** collaboration between EPPO, Europol and national authorities is fundamental to combat transnational financial crime.







## INSIGHTS SOCIAL MEDIA

CHAIR: Carlotta Eleni, Dimitri Eleni

MEMBERS: Beatrice Pellegrino, Wisal Tayebi



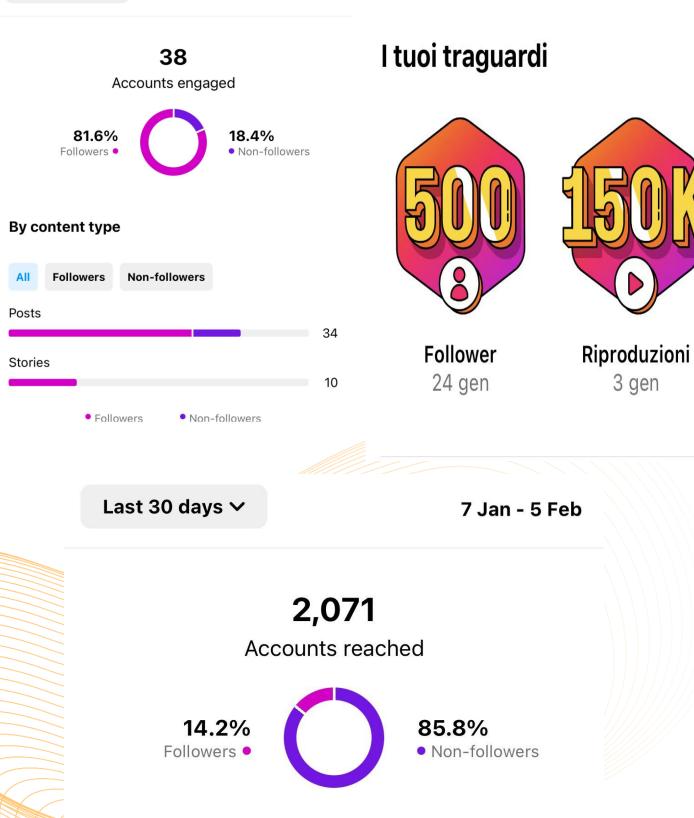






Last 30 days ✓

7 Jan - 5 Feb



#### INSTAGRAM

## PROBLEMI

- L. Le **frasi** per i post spesso **non** vengono **inviate**.
- 2. Alcune **foto** inviate sono **sgranate**, rendendo difficile pubblicarle sui social.
- 3. Il **format** discusso nei meeting (**titolo, slide 1, slide 2, slide 3**) non è ancora rispettato da tutti i comitati.

#### SOLUZIONI

- Inviare nuovamente a tutti i comitati le linee guida già stilate per la selezione delle frasi, assicurando chiarezza e uniformità..
- Verificare che le foto selezionate siano chiare e abbiano una buona definizione
- 3. I referenti di ogni comitato devono verificare che le parti social inviate rispettino sempre il format prestabilito (Titolo: ..., Slide 2: ..., ecc.).

#### PUNTI DI FORZA

I dati evidenziano che i contenuti con il maggior numero di interazioni si concentrano su due aree principali:

- 1. Argomenti di attualità, che suscitano un grande interesse.
- L'importante lavoro dell'EPPO nella protezione dei diritti umani

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#### STEPPO EU law

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Milano, Lombardia, Italia



Università degli Studi di Milano-Bic...

#### **Analisi**

- Solo per te
- 60 visualizzazioni del profilo Scopri chi ha visitato il tuo profilo.
- 610 impressioni del post
  Scopri chi sta interagendo con i tuoi post.
  Ultimi 7 giorni
- 8 comparse nei motori di ricerca
  Vedi quante volte compari nei risultati di ricerca.

Mostra tutte le analisi →

## LINKDIN

## PROBLEMI

Mancano delle **frasi** appositamente
 pensate per Linkedin per migliorare
 l'engagement anche su questa piattaforma.

## SOLUZIONI

 Scegliere <u>frasi tra loro collegate</u> che rispecchino le specificità della piattaforma.

## PUNTI DI FORZA

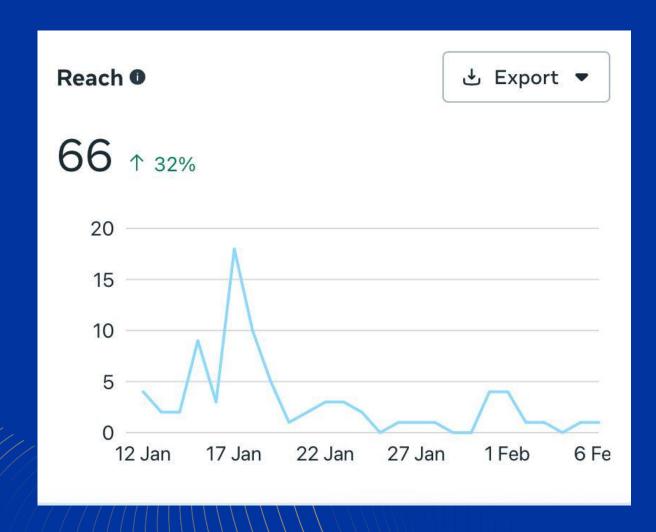
Su LinkedIn, abbiamo registrato un aumento delle visite al profilo, a conferma che i post più mirati hanno attratto efficacemente l'interesse del pubblico. Questo dimostra l'importanza di una comunicazione chiara per stimolare l'attenzione e l'interazione degli utenti su questa piattaforma professionale.







#### **FACEBOOK**



#### Punti di forza:

L'introduzione delle nuove linee guida per i post ha avuto un impatto significativo, con un notevole aumento dell'interesse degli utenti. Questo dimostra l'efficacia delle modifiche nel rispondere alle dinamiche della piattaforma e alle aspettative del pubblico.

#### **Problemi:**

- 1. Le **frasi** per i post spesso **non** vengono **inviate**.
- 2. Alcune **foto** inviate sono **sgranate**, rendendo difficile pubblicarle sui social.
- 3. Il **format** discusso nei meeting (**titolo, slide 1, slide 2, slide 3**) non è ancora rispettato da tutti i comitati.

#### **Soluzioni:**

- Inviare nuovamente a tutti i comitati le linee guida già stilate per la selezione delle frasi, assicurando chiarezza e uniformità..
- 2. Verificare che le **foto** selezionate siano **chiare** e abbiano una **buona definizione**
- 3. I **referenti** di ogni comitato devono **verificare** che le **parti social** inviate **rispettino** sempre **il format prestabilito** (Titolo: ..., Slide 2: ..., ecc.).







Il post più visualizzato è stato quello dedicato alla lectio del dottor Testa, dal titolo:

"La Procura Europea e la protezione degli interessi finanziari dell'Unione Europea. Il processo di integrazione giudiziaria nelle indagini transnazionali e nuovi strumenti di raccolta delle prove in materia di frodi ai fondi UE sull'immigrazione".

Ha raggiunto 173 visualizzazioni.

#### **Problemi:**

- 1. È il social meno utilizzato dagli utenti.
- A volte vengono condivise troppe slide che non si adattano alle specificità della piattaforma.

#### **Soluzioni:**

- 1. Ridurre il numero di slide
- Utilizzare foto coinvolgenti che catturino maggiormente
   l'attenzione degli utenti.











Steppo\_eulaw:
intervento di Roberto
Saviano presso l'U...
5462 visualizzazioni · 1 m...



The full video of the : closing conference: EPPO and THE RU... 514 visualizzazioni · 2 mes...





## Steppo EuLaw

@steppoeulaw

123 iscritti • 21 video

### SPOTIFY E YOUTUBE

#### **Problemi:**

1. I dati mostrano una chiara riduzione dell'engagement dopo la pubblicazione dei primi video, a causa della mancanza di una programmazione regolare e di contenuti nuovi.

#### **Soluzioni:**

1. Una maggiore frequenza di pubblicazioni, anche con brevi "pillole di contenuti" o interviste, potrebbe significativamente aumentare l'engagement.



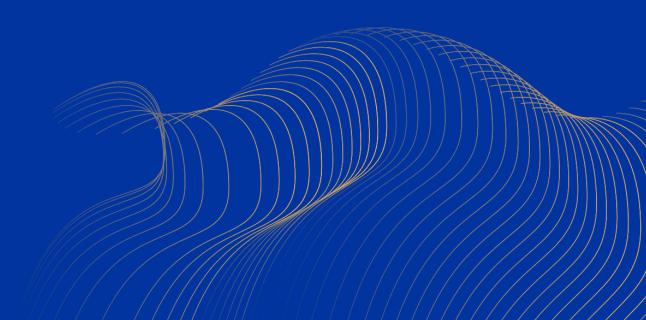




## SITO WEB



Per quanto riguarda il sito web possiamo constatare che la condivisione strategica di link diretti ai blog sui social media ha incrementato il traffico e l'engagement.







# NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS COMMITTEE

CHAIR: Claudio Palazzoni, Gabriele Liberatore VICE-CHAIR: Nadia Mangiardi Fontana









## Pubblicazioni

Il 7 febbraio 2025 è stato pubblicato un nuovo blog dal titolo "Indagine UE su Mafia e Frode IVA: 43
Arresti e 520 Milioni di Euro Congelati".

Entro fine mese verrà pubblicato un blog riguardante le frodi IVA e le cryptovalute.

A marzo verrà pubblicato un blog con focus frodi IVA In Italia.







# Indagine UE su Mafia e Frode

IVA: 43 Arresti e 520 Milioni di

Euro Congelati



Questo blog approfondisce le **frodi IVA** e il ruolo dell'EPPO (Procura Europea) nel contrastarle. Analizza casi reali, come l'operazione "Moby Dick", svela i meccanismi delle frodi fiscali (come le frodi carosello) e il coinvolgimento della criminalità organizzata. Inoltre, esplora le indagini internazionali, le normative UE e le strategie di contrasto adottate da forze di polizia ed Europol. Un punto di riferimento per chi vuole capire come funzionano le frodi fiscali e come l'Europa le sta combattendo.







L'EPPO dimostra la sua crescente capacità di colpire frodi fiscali su scala internazionale. Tuttavia, il caso "Moby Dick" evidenzia la necessità di strategie ancora più efficaci per contrastare il crimine economico transnazionale.

Dei 195 indagati, 43 sono stati arrestati (34 in carcere, 9 ai domiciliari). L'EPPO ha emesso 7 mandati di arresto europei, estendendo l'operazione in Bulgaria, Repubblica Ceca, Paesi Bassi e Spagna.









# Frodi IVA e cryptovalute

Blog in uscita

Le organizzazioni criminali sfruttano l'anonimato delle criptovalute per evadere l'IVA, utilizzando schemi come le frodi carosello per riciclare denaro in modo difficile da tracciare.

Mixer, piattaforme decentralizzate e transazioni fittizie vengono impiegati per rendere i flussi di denaro non rintracciabili, eludendo i controll delle autorità. La Procura Europea e gli enti regolatori stanno rafforzando controlli su exchange di criptovalute, sviluppando strumenti di analisi blockchain e potenziando la cooperazione internazionale per combattere le frodi fiscali digitali.









Cercare un contatto con altri comitati per creare dibattiti

# Obiettivi per Febbraio













# Banking, insurance and financial authorities subcommittee

Daniele Alessandro Luison CHAIR:

VICE-CHAIR: Matteo Ianni, Nicoletta Ordonselli







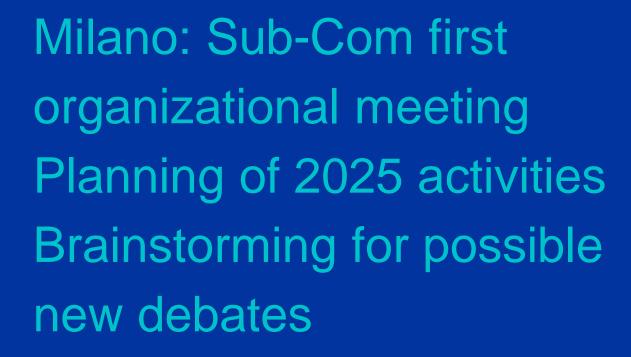








# Main Activities



Brussels: set-up of an international network (inside and outside of the EU institutions) of experts on the banking, financial and insurance sector











# Call for debates



Contact: Matteo.lANNI@ec.europa.eu



Sub-Committees interested in a constructive debate with ours are welcome to collaborate.

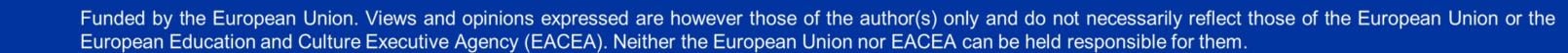
Debates help exchange ideas, challenge perspectives, and foster understanding. For details and scheduling, please contact our Vice-Chair, Matteo lanni.







# Digital Communication and Newsletter Committee









Increasing the publication of Newsletters

Strengthening
the cooperation
with the Create
Committee and
the Connect
Committee

Renewing the Newsletter shape and distribution

# Digital Communication and Newsletter Committee







#### Reaching more people through the Newsletter





#### Interactive **NEWSLETTER**

#### NOVITA

IZIO CORSO STEPPO

#### cca qui per iscriverti al corso

#### licca qui per scaricare il programma del

Clicca qui per leggere le linee guida del corsc

Dopo un anno di intenso lavoro, il comitato Game è ormai nelle fasi finali dello sviluppo del secondo gioco in realtà aumentata realizzato nell'ambito del Centro di Eccellenza Jean Monnet EPPONFI - EPPO: a New Frontier in Integration. Il progetto nasce dalla collaborazione con il Mind and Behavior Technological Center (MIBTEC) dell'Università di Milano-Bicocca e Another Reality srl e ha ora raggiunto l'ultima fase di sviluppo, che precede

come uno strumento formativo per gli operatori del diritto coinvolti in indagini transfrontaliere. Le domande, di natura teorica e con diversi livelli di difficoltà mirano a valutare sia le conoscenze di bas sul Regolamento EPPO sia competenze più avanzate, fino ad arrivare all'analisi di casi reali esaminati dalla Corte di Giustizia dell'Unione Europea.

STEPPO VR sarà presentato ufficialmente durante la conferenza finale del Corso Jean Monnet, evento a partire dal quale il gioco sarà accessibile per l'utilizzo.



Continue with the cooperation between the committees involved with the communication



Next steps

Create two Newsletters every four weeks





# EPPO & IMMIGRATION

CHAIR: Luca Ferro, Francesco Testa, Alessia Voinich







# EPPO & IMMIGRATION COMMITTEE Members:

#### **CHAIRS:**

Dr. Francesco Testa

Delegate European Public Prosecutor in Rome

Luca Ferro

Head of the Office of the Public Prosecutor in Milan

Dott.ssa Alessia Voinich

Ph.D and Lawyer

Members:

Mattia Ross

Federico Cappuccio

Mariagiusi Calabrò

Eleonora Grassi

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#### CURRENT CHALLENGES



This month, the committee is studying the reform of the new immigration and asylum pact, mainly concerning the financial solidarity aspects.

The aim is to identify possible topics for indepth seminars and to organise the work of students interested in writing future posts.







# EPPO and EU Law

(Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence - EPPONFI)
EU INSTITUTIONS SUBCOMMITEE

CHAIR: Florin Rãzvan Radu, Petr Klement

MEMBERS: Miriam Testa, Giulia Varisco







# LAST MONTHS? HIGH-LEVEL MEETINGS FOR THE EPPO

8.01.2025: the European Chief Prosecutor met the Polish Minister of Justice in Luxembourg. The meeting was focused on finalising steps to make EPPO operational in Poland and our role in combating the circumvention of EU sanctions.



high-level talks with the European Chief Prosecutor and the

29.01.2025: the Eurojust President Michael Schmid visited EPPO for

College.



27.01.2025: first visit of Justice Commissioner Michael McGrath.

Focus on the systemic threat organised crime poses to the EU

budget & the possible extension of EPPO's competence to include

circumvention of EU sanctions.



31.01.2025: European Chief Prosecutor was in Warsaw for high-level

meetings with national authorities, taking stock of EPPO's first days

of operations in Poland.



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# THE EPPO AND THE HELLENIC FINANCIAL INTELLIGENCE UNIT



On the 16<sup>th</sup> January 2025, the EPPO signed a new Memorandum of Understanding with the Hellenic Financial Intelligence Unit(HFIU) in order to strengthen the cooperation, including the exchange of operational and strategic information, expand joint activities, and improve communication to achieve shared goals.





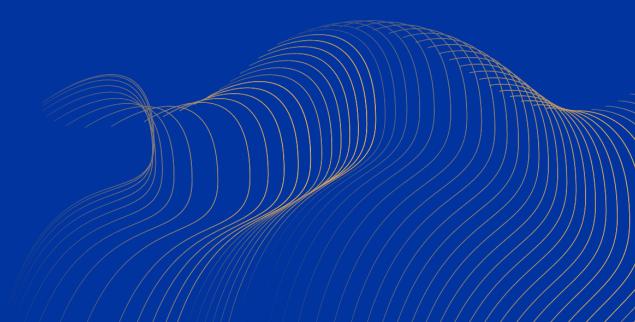




# A NEW EUROPEAN DELEGATED PROSECUTOR

In January, a fourth PED was appointed for the Netherlands.

This makes 167 European Delegated
Prosecutors active in 24 EU Member States.













## LAST MONTH'S BLOG FOR STEPPO

EPPO and the National Anti-corruption Center of the Republic of Moldova: the Working Arrangement

Gen 11, 2025 | EU Institutions Subcommittee



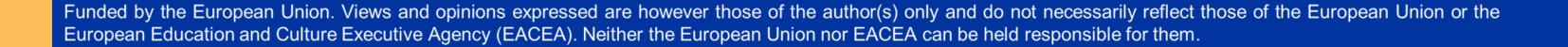




## ACADEMIC COMMITTEE

CHAIR: Alejandro Hernandez Lopez, Ilaria Sticchi, Enrico Traversa

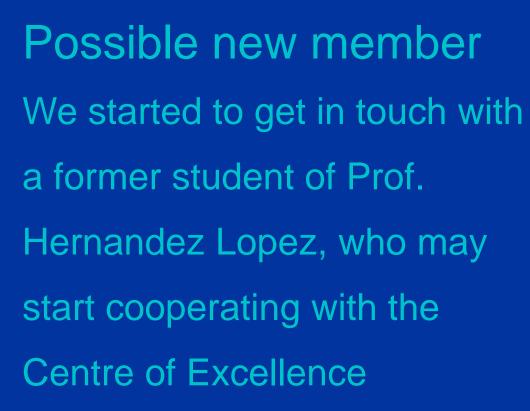
**CHAIR SUPPORT: Marta Ramat** 











# Module "The EPPO and EU Law"

The 2025 STEPPO module will kick off on Monday 24 February You are all invited to attend in presence or online (link on the Steppo website)









# New EPPO cases before the CJEU



New applications were filed by or against the EPPO before the General Court:

- T-102/25, Sico v EPPO, lodged on 12 February
- T-103/25, Luise v EPPO, lodged on 12 February
- T-100/25, Testa v EPPO, lodged on 12 February
- T-99/25, EPPO v Court of Auditors, lodged on 10 February

Unfortunately, case documents are *not yet* available on the Court's website

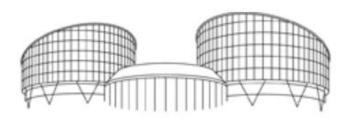
All pending and closed cases are available <u>HERE</u>







# New ECtHR ruling



EUROPEAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS COUR EUROPÉENNE DES DROITS DE L'HOMME

FIRST SECTION

CASE OF ITALGOMME PNEUMATICI S.R.L. AND OTHERS v. ITALY

(Applications nos. <u>36617/18</u> and 12 others – see appended list)

JUDGMENT

On 6 February, the ECtHR found Italy in violation of Article 8 ECHR in a case concerning Italian legislation on tax compliance, namely provisions regulating the inspection of business premises and seizure of accounting records.

Those provisions were deemed to leave too much discretion to authorities and to deprive the interested persons of procedural safeguards and judicial review.

The judgment is available in English <u>HERE</u>







# Bibliography

Eucrim Spotlight, Regulation on the Transfer of Criminal Proceedings Published, available <u>HERE</u>

Agnese Ciprandi, La nozione di "giurisdizione" alla prova del regolamento istitutivo della procura europea: una legittimazione del pubblico ministero a proporre rinvio pregiudiziale?, in Rivista del Contenzioso, 2025, available <u>HERE</u>

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Nikoleta Symela Mavromati & Diana Riochet, The Protection of Fundamental Rights and Procedural Guarantees in OLAF Investigations: a 25-Year Journey, in Eucrim, available HERE