

EFEN PROJECT

Conference 2014
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Rome, Italy



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ROMA



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Welcome

Welcome to the ECRIS Fingerprint Exchange Network (EFEN) Project Conference.

The remit of the EFEN Project is to develop the wider use of fingerprints to support EU criminal records exchange and aims to share and collate best practice amongst EU Member States. It also focuses on raising awareness of the importance of identity within EU criminal records exchange with the EU judicial community.

This conference aims to relay the findings of the project, hear from other Member States about their experiences, learn about training activities being completed across the EU and initiate discussions and debates.

We would like to thank Chief Constable David Shaw for supporting the project and chairing this interesting event. We also extend our thanks to the conference speakers for their contribution to the conference and the project.

We hope that delegates enjoy this event and benefit from the discussions and information.

EFEN Project Team



Project Background

EU Member States have been exchanging criminal records through a network of dedicated Central Authorities since 2005. The exchanges highlighted that correctly identifying convicted persons is challenging for EU Member States as there is not a universal approach to identifying these individuals.

In 2009 a new EU Council Framework Decision 2009/315/JHA was created which allows EU Member States to utilise fingerprints to support EU criminal records exchange if available to the relevant EU Member State.

ACRO previously managed an EU funded project between 2009 and 2012 known as the 'Fingerprint Exchange between EU Member States' FEEU Project. The FEEU Project proved that fingerprints were valuable in supporting criminal records exchange and created momentum in a change in attitude towards fingerprints. The project provided considerable factual evidence regarding the value and benefits of utilising fingerprints within criminal record exchange to EU Member States. ACRO felt that this momentum should be maintained and more work needed to be done to raise awareness of the importance of fingerprints in supporting criminal records exchange.

ACRO therefore submitted a funding bid to the European Commission to manage a two year project which concerns sharing and collating best practice amongst EU Member States as well as raising awareness with practitioners across the EU. The bid was successful and the project known as the 'ECRIS Fingerprint Exchange Network' (EFEN) commenced in October 2012.

The project involves five different work streams and has a number of key objectives:

- Support the implementation of Council Framework Decision 2009/315/JHA across the EU with a particular focus on Article 11 (c).
- Support implementation of Council Framework Decision 2008/675/JHA across the EU with a particular focus on identity and its importance in the use of previous convictions as bad character evidence and/or in sentencing decisions.
- Developing and sharing best practice in relation to utilising fingerprints within criminal records exchange through the establishment of a sustainable ECRIS Fingerprint Practitioner Network and through project workshops with EU Member States.
- Raise awareness and mutual understanding of the different judicial systems and associated importance of identification in criminal records exchange through networking with the EU judicial community.
- Promote harmonisation between all EU Member States and relevant accession countries by supporting integration into exchange processes within ECRIS with a particular focus on judicial cooperation with regard to the use of fingerprints as a part of EU criminal record exchange.

Chief Constable David Shaw's Welcome & Biography

It is my pleasure and privilege to welcome colleagues from across the European Union to this conference. I am extremely grateful that you have committed your time and energy to joining us for what I strongly believe will be a very important event in taking this work forward.

The conference represents a culmination of a huge amount of effort, dedication and commitment from colleagues from many nations and will provide us with a genuine opportunity to build stronger networks, enhance relationships that have been cultivated during the project and also to

look forward and start to think about how we progress these challenging questions in the future.

The quality of speakers and presentations is of the highest order and I am delighted to see the very high number of colleagues joining us and the range of skills and knowledge that you have all brought to this event. I hope you have a very productive, interesting and thought provoking conference and once again thank you for your attendance.

Chief Constable David Shaw



Chief Constable David Shaw began his police career in 1979 at West Midlands Police. There he enjoyed a wide range of roles and ranks including Uniform Duties, CID, Air Operations Planning and Senior Operational Command.

In 2004 David was successful in selection for the Senior Command Course at the Police Staff College, Bramshill. That year he also gained a post graduate diploma in Criminology at Cambridge University.

On graduating from the Senior Command Course David secured the post of Assistant Chief Constable, West Midlands Police where he had responsibility for Local Policing, Criminal Justice and ICT. In 2006 he took on responsibility for Crime and Counter Terrorism at a time when the threat from attack was at its height.

In 2008 he was appointed Deputy Chief Constable at West Mercia Police and in 2011 was made Chief Constable which for him is a “dream job”. Joining this force was a little like “coming home” as David has lived in the force area, in Worcestershire since 2001.

David holds a number of national roles including leading the ACPO Conflict Management Portfolio which incorporates Firearms, Public Order, Control and Restraint, Dogs, Mounted and Uniform.

He is also ACPO Lead on fingerprinting and is currently the Senior Responsible Officer for delivering a new fingerprints system and which is also exploring how other biometric systems can link across policing and other criminal justice agencies.

David is also very proud to be Chair of British Police Rugby.

Away from work, he is part of a big, busy family and together with his wife, Juliet, they have three (now big) kids, a very friendly but slightly deranged dog and a sociopathic cat.

His love of rugby also includes being a long time fan of Worcester Warriors Rugby Club and he enjoys time with friends, family, taking part in triathlons and playing music badly.

Programme - Day One

- 12:00 - 13:30** **Registration and Welcome Refreshments**
- 13:30 - 14:00** **Welcome and Opening of the Conference**
Chief Constable David Shaw - *West Mercia Police, UK*
Mrs Annamaria Palma Guarnier - *Vice Head of the
Judicial Affairs Department, Ministry of Justice, Italy*
- 14:00 - 14:30** **ECRIS Fingerprint Exchange Network
(EFEN) Project Overview**
Mrs Sarah Fleming - *EFEN Project, ACRO, UK*
- 14:30 - 15:00** **Activities of the Republic of Croatia in the
International Fingerprint Exchange in the
EFEN Project and the General Importance
of the Fingerprint Exchange in the area of
Criminal Record Exchange**
Mr Darko Vincek - *Ministry of Justice, Croatia*
- 15:00 - 15:25** **Refreshment Break** 

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15:25 - 15:55 **Analysis on the use of Fingerprints within
EU Criminal Record Exchange**

Miss Amy Middleton - *EFEN Project, ACRO, UK*

15:55 - 16:25 **Fingerprints Exchanging from Spanish
Criminal Records Register Experience**

Mr Alfredo Sanchez De Dios - *Ministry of Justice, Spain*

16:25 - 16:45 **Panel Session**

16:45 - 17:00 **Closing Remarks - Day One**

Chief Constable David Shaw - *West Mercia Police, UK*

17:00 **Day One Close**

19:00 **Gala Dinner**

Dinner at the Empire Palace Hotel



End of Day One

Programme - Day Two

- 09:00 - 09:30** **Registration and Welcome Refreshments**
- 09:30 - 09:45** **Opening of Day Two**
Chief Constable David Shaw - *West Mercia Police, UK*
- 09:45 - 10:15** **Improving the Fingerprint Processing Efficiency for the UK Central Authority for the Exchange of Criminal Records (UKCA-ECR)**
Mrs Claire Wills - *UKCA-ECR, ACRO, UK*
- 10:15 - 10:45** **How to Communicate about ECRIS for the Legal Practitioners? The French Example**
Mrs Elise Thevenin-Scott - *Magistrat, Charge de Mission, France*
- 10:45 - 11:00** **The European Judicial Training Network “A New Model to Train Judges and Prosecutors in EU Criminal Justice”**
Mrs Moníca Martí García - *European Judicial Training Network (EJTN)*
- 11:00 - 11:25** **Refreshment Break** 

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- 11:25 - 11:40** **ECRIS Fingerprint Practitioner Network**
Mrs Sarah Fleming - *EFEN Project, ACRO, UK*
- 11:40 - 11:55** **ECRIS, Facts and Figures**
Mr Jaime Lopez - Loosvelt - *European Commission*
- 11:55 - 12:10** **Improving Data Quality of EU Criminals
(IDQEUC) Project**
Inspector Phil Boswell - *IDQEUC Project, ACRO, UK*
- 12:10 - 12:20** **Next Steps**
Mr Ken Littlewood - *EFEN Project Executive, ACRO, UK*
- 12:20 - 12:40** **Panel Session**
- 12:40 - 13:00** **Summing Up and Closing of the
Conference**
Chief Constable David Shaw - *West Mercia Police, UK*
- 13:00** **Conference Close and Lunch**



End of Day Two

Speaker Biographies



Annamaria Palma Guarnier graduated as a lawyer in Palermo and became a judge on June 27, 1978.

From 1978 until 2007 she worked in Sicily, beginning as an expert on the matter of national and international organized crime. She supported the prosecution in the three criminal proceedings relating to the massacre of Judge Paolo Borsellino and his bodyguards and the massacre of the Director instructor Rocco Chinnici, by the judgments of conviction.

Since 2007, she worked in the secretariat of the Ministry of the Interior, with responsibility for analysis and study of the projections of international and transnational organized crime.

In 2008 she was nominated Coordinating Director of the Office of the President of the Senate of the Republic. She participated in the creation of the “European Senates”.

Since July 30, 2013 she is Deputy Head of the Department of Justice Affairs.



Sarah Fleming has worked for the Association of Chief Police Officer’s Criminal Records Office (ACRO) for over 6 years. She has held a number of different roles all in relation to EU criminal record exchange, primarily working within the UK Central Authority for the Exchange of Criminal Records (UKCA-ECR).

She has previously undertaken a role where she has been responsible for the translation of foreign criminal offences to offences recognised by UK law and entering them onto the criminal record system.

Sarah has also been intrinsically involved in a number of EU projects focused on EU criminal records exchange. In 2010 she was seconded as a researcher to the Mutual Understanding of Criminal Records Information (MUCRI) Project, and Sarah is now currently seconded to the ECRIS Fingerprint Exchange Network (EFEN) Project. She has been working on this project since late 2012 as a Project Support Officer and took over as Project Manager in early 2014.



Darko Vincek is the Head of the International Criminal Records Exchange Department, for the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Croatia

He graduated from the Faculty of Law of the University of Zagreb, and went on to specialise in European Law.

Having qualified as a Judge, Darko worked as an advisor in the Ministry of Justice relating to international civil and criminal law.

Having spent 4 years as the Deputy of Municipal Public Prosecutor in Zagreb, Darko started to work on the criminal records department for the ministry of Justice and became the Head of the International Criminal Records Exchange Department in 2012.

Darko has contributed to many international seminars and programmes, and has published numerous scientific and specialist articles. He is currently working on publishing a book entitled “Criminal Records and International Exchange of Data”.



Amy Middleton graduated from Bournemouth University in July 2010 with an Honours Degree in Archaeological and Forensic Sciences. She specialised in the use of mitochondrial DNA analysis for the purposes of forensic identification investigations for people with mixed ancestry.

She joined the ACPO Criminal Records Office in September 2010 where she has held a number of roles. Amy started in the Central Services department, and was seconded to INTERPOL for 8 months in 2012. Here Amy worked as an assistant to the Fingerprint Unit, where she helped facilitate fingerprint exchange between ACRO and INTERPOL and was responsible for the organisation and administration of the 7th International Fingerprint Symposium. She also presented at this event.

Since her return to ACRO Amy has been seconded to the EFEN Project.

Speaker Biographies



Alfredo Sanchez De Dios is currently the Assistant Deputy Director in the Supporting Judicial Activity Administrative Registers Unit of Spain.

He has been an Attorney at law and Civil Servant since 1992 as member of the Cuerpo Superior de Administradores Civiles del Estado, Spanish Superior Body on Public Administration. He has worked in the Spanish National Institute of Public Administration, with deployments at the Civil Service College in London (England).

Alfredo has worked as Legal Advisor for different Departments in Spanish Administration such as Health or Agriculture and Fishing.

He has worked in the Ministry of Justice for several years, first as Legal Advisor in the Nationality and Civil State Department, and in 2013 he joined the Supporting Judicial Activity Administrative Registers Unit, as Criminal Records Register Chief.

Currently Alfredo is the Assistant Deputy Director in the Supporting Judicial Activity Administrative Registers Unit where he manages and co-ordinates the Criminal Records Register, the Definitive Sentences about Minors Register, the Genere Violence and Precautionary Measures Register and the Civil Rebels Register.

He also represents Spain in different EU workgroups related to Criminal Records Exchange like the EFEN Project, the Improving Data Quality of EU Criminals Project and the Criminal Records Analysis to Support the European Pact on International Drug Trafficking (ISEC Project).



Claire Wills is a graduate of The City University, London and has had previous careers in teaching and taxation.

Claire currently works for the United Kingdom Central Authority for the Exchange of Criminal Records (UKCA-ECR) as a Project Support Officer for the European Criminal Record Information System (ECRIS) exchange. She has worked in various departments within Association of Chief Police Officer's Criminal Records Office (ACRO) since 2007, moving to UKCA in June 2011 after a period working on an attachment to The Serious and Organised Crime Agency (SOCA).

Claire liaises with other EU Member States regarding the implementation of the EU Council Framework Decisions 2009/315/JHA and 2009/316/JHA, she is also responsible for development within the UKCA-ECR of the database through which the UK exchanges information in ECRIS. It is as part of this role that Claire has worked closely with the EFEN Project ensuring that the development work has been integrated into the daily working processes of the UKCA-ECR. At the time of writing she is leading on a development to use the EFEN fingerprint functionality for exchanges outside of ECRIS and the EU.



Elise Thevenin-Scott works for the French Ministry of Justice as a National referent Judge.

After graduating with Honours from the Law faculty of Aix-en-Provence she worked at various Courts within the jurisdiction of the Court of appeal of Rennes as an investigating judge, civil law judge, juvenile judge and in sentence enforcement.

She then worked for the Tribunal de grande instance de Nantes, taking the responsibilities of a Family Judge and as Chief Staff in charge of Communication and City Policy, later becoming a Juvenile Judge participating in the organisation of the Juvenile Court's service.

Since September 2010 Elise has worked as a national referent Judge for the National automated register on offenders of sexual or violent crimes (FIJAIS). She is the Judge in charge of the project on the interconnection of the European criminal registers and represents France in various meetings in Brussels where both legal and technical aspects of the ECRIS interconnection project are considered.

She is a member of the Executive Committee of the National Criminal Register and participates in all strategic decisions specific to the French National Criminal Register.



Mónica Martí García joined the EJTN in 2006 and since 2009 is responsible for Criminal Justice training activities within the EJTN.

A former lawyer registered in the Madrid Bar Association as non-practicing lawyer, she has an international experience in EU institutions as the European Parliament and the European Economic and Social Committee as well as in international law firms in Madrid, Brussels and Boston. She holds a DES in EU law by the ULB-Institut d'Etudes européennes and a LLM in EU Law- Multilevel European Integration and

Fundamental Rights by UNED-Spain.

Mónica has participated in different international courses and seminars in EU Criminal Justice as well as in judicial training conferences. She also takes part of a Working Group as international expert within the Council of Europe (HELP Programme).

Speaker Biographies



Jaime Lopez-Loosvelt joined the European Commission as an official in 2007. In June 2010 he was appointed as project manager for the establishment of the European Criminal Records Information System (ECRIS) and the development of the ECRIS Reference Implementation (RI) interconnection software.

The goals of both projects are to enable the exchange of criminal records in a uniform and readily accessible way among the Central Authorities from the European Union.

Since the go-live of ECRIS in 2012 Jaime has continued to monitor the operation of the ECRIS exchanges and continues to contribute to the discussions to resolve any issues with the exchange of criminal records among Central Authorities.



Philip Boswell is a police officer in Hampshire Constabulary, UK with 25 years service having joined from a logistics business background.

His career has led him to serve in a number of roles at different ranks including working on a national initiative on the development of the electronic capture and searching of fingerprints in police stations (Livescan), facial recognition and digital identity parades.

In 2010 he was seconded to the Association of Chief Police Officers - Criminal Records Office (ACRO) to develop the Fingerprint Exchange between EU Member States (FEEU) and to assess the options for exchanging fingerprints relating to non EU nationals who are convicted within EU Member States.

Philip is currently leading a project to enhance the quality of the data held by EU Member States and gathered at the point of contact between law enforcement agencies and persons under investigation.



Ken Littlewood is a senior manager working at the ACPO Criminal Records Office (ACRO) on behalf of the Home Office.

In 1986 he joined the Hampshire Constabulary and enjoyed a wide range of ranks and responsibilities throughout his career. As a Detective Inspector he was responsible for managing investigations into serious and complex crimes against children.

He then worked for a number of years with the National Crime Squad and also the Serious Organised Crime Agency managing covert operations and prosecutions of national and international organised crime groups in the UK and overseas.

Since 2010 Ken has worked on behalf of the Home Office at ACRO. He manages the UK Central Authority which exchanges criminal record information (including biometric data) with 27 other EU Member States.

Ken also manages the Non EU team which exchanges criminal record information (including biometric data) with up to 170 Non EU Interpol countries. He is particularly focused on developing information sharing agreements (ISA's) with priority non EU Interpol countries in order to improve the exchange of criminal record information and biometric data to reduce the risk from transnational criminality.



Thank You

The EFEN Project Team would like to express our gratitude to everybody who contributed to the completion of this project.

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