

EN

E-001096/2025

Answer given by Mr McGrath
on behalf of the European Commission
(23.5.2025)

On 8 December 2022, the Commission adopted a Recommendation on the procedural rights of suspects and accused in pre-trial detention and on material detention conditions¹. The Commission is also supporting the exchange of best practices in the Member States by funding organisations such as EuroPris, which organised a roundtable on prison intelligence in relation to organised crime in May 2024². Moreover, as announced in the ProtectEU Strategy, the Commission is working to address any obstacles in the fight against criminal networks through new EU rules on fighting organised crime, to be adopted in 2026.

The Commission is committed to ensure the rights, support and protection of witnesses, including police informants. The issue was identified as an area requiring improvement in a 2015 study³ and recognised as a priority for intervention in the 2023 EU Roadmap to Fight Drug Trafficking and Organised Crime⁴. These aspects are also being taken into consideration in the context of the ongoing efforts to revise the current rules on organised crime.

The Commission does not dispose of information on the number of additional places that have been created through the construction of prisons using EU funds.

¹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/EN/legal-content/summary/recommendation-on-procedural-rights-of-suspects-and-accused-people-subject-to-pre-trial-detention-and-on-material-detention-conditions.html?fromSummary=13>.

² <https://www.euopris.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/Summary-Prison-Intelligence-Roundtable-Brussels-2024-1.pdf>.

³ <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/a1183e4b-1164-4595-a742-fb4514ddd10d>.

⁴ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52023DC0641>.