

(English version)

**Priority question for written answer P-002765/26
to the Commission
Milan Uhrík (ESN)
(3 July 2026)**

Subject: Strategic developments impacting Eurojust's counter-terrorism casework

EU citizens with patriotic views are increasingly being harassed under the guise of fighting 'hate speech'. Critically, Eurojust's Annual Report 2025 note (in Section 3.8 Terrorism) that in December 2025, the Commission established a new network of prosecutors for hate crimes, which Eurojust will support alongside a parallel law enforcement network.

Regarding this, I submit the following questions:

1. What legal basis under the Eurojust Regulation allows for action against non-criminal speech, which is protected by freedom of expression, and what are the organisational and financial structures of the new prosecutors' network and the EU High Level Group on combating hate speech and hate crime?
2. What legal basis allows the Commission to meddle in the work of independent national prosecutors and set up a parallel law enforcement network, and how can Eurojust staff participate in these political networks and exchange information with non-governmental organisations given strict statutory professional secrecy rules?
3. Why is non-criminal speech subject to counter-terrorism measures, equating it with real Islamic terrorism and is Eurojust involved in the online hate speech monitoring network enforcing citizen censorship?

Submitted: 3.7.2026

**Answer given by Mr McGrath on behalf of the European Commission
(27 August 2026)**

The freedom of expression is one of the pillars of a democratic and pluralist society and the EU is committed to its protection under Article 11 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU ⁽¹⁾.

In the EU, the offence of racist and xenophobic public incitement to violence or hatred, known as illegal racist and xenophobic hate speech, is defined in Framework Decision 2008/913/JHA ⁽²⁾ and by the measures transposing it into national law. Based on this legal framework, the Commission has developed a comprehensive toolbox to support Member States in addressing illegal hate offenses, including hate speech.

This includes support for and coordination between national authorities, including law enforcement and prosecutors responsible for tackling these hate offenses. To that end, the Commission set up two networks in 2025, one for national law enforcement contact points and one for national prosecutors dealing with such crimes. In cooperation with partners such as Eurojust, these networks help specialised national authorities apply relevant EU and national criminal law in this area.

Pursuant to Article 48 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1727 ⁽³⁾, Eurojust cooperates with EU networks involved in judicial cooperation in criminal matters.

⁽¹⁾ Charter of Fundamental Rights of The EU, 2012/C 326/02: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/treaty/char_2012/oj/eng.

⁽²⁾ Council Framework Decision 2008/913/JHA of 28 November 2008 on combating certain forms and expressions of racism and xenophobia by means of criminal law (OJ L 328, 6.12.2008, pp. 55-58).

⁽³⁾ Regulation (EU) 2018/1727 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 November 2018 on the European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation (Eurojust), and replacing and repealing Council Decision 2002/187/JHA, OJ L 295, 21.11.2018, pp. 138-183, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2018/1727/oj>, as subsequently amended.