



EU Global Facility on AML/CFT, Siracusa Institute partner to strengthen international judicial cooperation

BRUSSELS/SIRACUSA, 13 September 2021 - The EU Global Facility on Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorist Financing (EU GF-AML/CFT) and the Siracusa International Institute for Criminal Justice and Human Rights are pleased to announce their new partnership, which seeks to strengthen international judicial cooperation between judges and prosecutors.

The collaboration will consist of a number of joint activities aimed at reinforcing judges and prosecutors' capacities and specialised knowledge on AML/CF T matters. International co-operation and co-ordination amongst the prosecution services, court staff and judges are intrinsic to fighting international organised crime, money laundering and terrorist financing in an efficient manner, the agreement between the two parties stated.

The Global Facility's Team Leader, David Hotte, commended the new agreement, saying: *"joining forces with the Siracusa Institute represents another milestone in our global fight against ML/FT. We will greatly benefit from the long-standing expertise of this centre of excellence, most specifically in European and Mediterranean countries."*

"I am particularly happy to see our global facility benefit from the world-renowned professionalism of the Institute's President, Jean Francois Thony, who is a leading figure in the field of criminal justice, and the defense of human rights."

For his part, Hon. Prosecutor General Jean-Francois Thony said the collaboration is *"an opportunity to promote the fight against money laundering, terrorist financing and all forms of organised crime, in line with our shared values of the protection of fundamental rights and the rule of law."*

"We are delighted to provide the Global Facility with yet another platform to further support countries in building more efficient criminal justice systems worldwide, as a way to actively prevent international and transnational crime."

The collaboration will be officially launched through a webinar on judicial cooperation in the MENA region slated for Wednesday, September 22nd. More information about this event will soon be available on www.global-amlcft.eu and www.siracusainstitute.org/app/

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About the Siracusa Institute: The Siracusa International Institute is an Italian NGO dedicated to education, training and research in the fields of international and comparative criminal justice and human rights. Established in 1972, the Institute's vision is two-fold: the protection of human rights through the rule of law and ending impunity for serious crimes affecting international security.

About the EU GF-AML/CFT: Established in 2017 by the European Commission, the EU GF-AML/CFT aims to support third countries in their efforts to prevent money laundering and cut off access to funding for individual terrorists and terrorist organisations. Financed by the Commission's Service for Foreign Policy Instruments (FPI), the project is implemented by Expertise France, in partnership with the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit and the Northern Ireland Cooperation Overseas.



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