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**EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR THE EFFICIENCY OF JUSTICE  
(CEPEJ)**

**2020 - 2021 Activity Programme of the CEPEJ**

**Adopted by the CEPEJ in accordance with Article 7.5 of its Statute**

1. The Committee of Ministers has entrusted the European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice (hereafter “CEPEJ”) with the mission of working with member States to promote effective implementation of Council of Europe instruments concerning the organisation of judicial systems, promoting justice as an efficient public service functioning with quality and taking the users of the justice system into account, and helping to disencumber the European Court of Human Rights by offering member States effective solutions prior to legal proceedings, preventing violations of Article 6 of the European Convention on Human Rights.

2. Under Article 2 of its Statute, contained in the Committee of Ministers’ Resolution [Res\(2002\)12](#), the CEPEJ is required to:

- examine the results achieved by the different judicial systems, using common statistical criteria and means of evaluation,
- analyse problems and areas for possible improvements, and
- identify concrete ways of improving the evaluation and functioning of member States’ judicial systems, regard being had to the specific needs of each State.

3. The independence and efficiency of justice remain among the core priorities of the Organisation. This programme is part of the “Rule of Law” pillar of the 2020-2021 programme of the Council of Europe. This text constitutes the general basis of the various tasks assigned to the CEPEJ.

4. The CEPEJ’s activity contributes to the implementation of the “Council of Europe Plan of Action on Strengthening Judicial Independence and Impartiality” adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 13 April 2016 following the report by the Secretary General “on the state of democracy, human rights and the rule of law in Europe”.

5. This programme is designed around six areas of responsibility vested in the CEPEJ:

- developing tools for analysing the functioning of justice and ensuring that public policies of justice are geared towards greater efficiency and quality,
- obtaining an in-depth knowledge of the timeframes of proceedings for reaching optimum and foreseeable judicial time,
- promoting quality of judicial systems and courts,
- developing targeted co-operation at the request of a member or partner State and promoting among the stakeholders in the member or partner States the implementation of the measures and the use of the tools designed by the CEPEJ,
- analysing and developing relevant tools on emerging issues such as the use of cyberjustice and artificial intelligence in judicial systems as regards the efficiency and quality of judicial systems,
- strengthening relations with users of the justice system, as well as national and international bodies.

6. It includes co-operation programmes (including Joint programmes with the European Union) for promoting the concrete implementation of the CEPEJ methodology and tools by justice decision-makers and in courts, as an integral part of the CEPEJ’s own activities. Such activities offer a genuine added value in the field of justice to the member States and non-member States seeking for closer co-operation with the Council of Europe.

7. Where appropriate, the activities will be carried out in co-operation with the relevant Council of Europe committees, as well as the observers to the CEPEJ.

8. The activity programme is implemented according to available budgetary resources (ordinary budget and other budgetary resources), under the CEPEJ’s overall authority, in accordance with the responsibilities laid down in Resolution [Res\(2002\)12](#). Within its responsibilities, the CEPEJ Bureau prepares the ground for this work and issues the necessary guidance.

General responsibilities of CEPEJ	Specific objectives	Tasks	Means
<p><b>Developing tools for evaluating and analysing the functioning of justice and ensuring that public policies of justice are geared towards greater efficiency and quality</b></p>	<p>To have a detailed knowledge of European judicial systems and the evolution of the day-to-day functioning of the court system, in order to facilitate the reform process in the member States and beyond</p>	<p>Implementation of the 2018-2020 evaluation cycle in the member States and volunteer observer States (including Israel, Morocco and Kazakhstan)</p> <p>Preparation and adoption of the evaluation report of judicial systems (Edition 2020) structured around specific issues (budget, professionals, organisation and users of the courts, efficiency and quality) and the enrichment of the CEPEJ-STAT data base</p> <p>Promotion of the 2020 evaluation report in a new shorter presentation, prioritizing the highlighting of tendencies. In parallel, CEPEJ-STAT to evolve to be more interactive for the user.</p> <p>Launching of the 2020 – 2022 evaluation cycle: adaptation of the electronic Scheme (CEPEJ-COLLECT), information of the national correspondents</p> <p>Implementation of the peer review co-operation process on judicial statistics in States that have not been submitted yet to this evaluation or for some who wish to modify their national data collection system in order to be more compatible with CEPEJ-COLLECT</p>	<p>5 meetings of CEPEJ-GT-EVAL</p> <p>2 meetings of the Network of national correspondents</p> <p><i>Ad hoc</i> visits of a delegation CEPEJ-GT-EVAL / Secretariat in some member States (5 maximum) where difficulties have been highlighted on the data provided.</p> <p>Participation of CEPEJ representatives in various fora to introduce the 2020 report</p> <p>Technical adaptation of CEPEJ-COLLECT and CEPEJ-STAT</p> <p>Peer evaluation visits (5) - with 3 experts</p> <p>4 plenary meetings of CEPEJ</p> <p>Voluntary contributions of the observer States</p> <p>Specific co-operation programmes in collaboration with other partners (including EU)</p>

General responsibilities of CEPEJ	Specific objectives	Tasks	Means
	To provide expertise for the analysis of the functioning of judicial systems to better assess efforts made in the field judiciary reforms and to strengthen mutual confidence between the justice systems of EU member States, including as regards efficiency, quality and ethics of the systems	Evaluation of the functioning of judicial systems in member and partner States, from the CEPEJ methodology	Specific co-operation programmes (including in co-operation with other partners, <i>i.a.</i> EU)
		Co-operation with the European Commission consisting of the annual preparation, based on the CEPEJ methodology for evaluating judicial systems, of the Study on the functioning of judicial systems to be used for the production of the "EU Justice Scoreboard"	<p>Funding by the EC (200.000 €/year) – this funding is ensured until 31 March 2021</p> <p>5 meetings of CEPEJ-GT-EVAL</p> <p>Participation of CEPEJ members, experts and Secretariat in EU meetings</p> <p>Participation of EU bodies (EC, Council, EP) in CEPEJ's meetings, in particular GT-EVAL</p>
		Co-operation with the European Commission consisting of the preparation of a Study evaluating efficiency, quality and ethics of judicial systems in Western Balkans ("Justice Dashboard")	<p>Funding by the EC (1.095.000) – this funding is ensured until May 2022</p> <p>5 meetings of CEPEJ-GT-EVAL</p> <p>Participation of CEPEJ members, experts and Secretariat in EU meetings</p> <p>Participation of EU bodies (EC, Council, EP) in CEPEJ meetings, in particular GT-EVAL</p>

General responsibilities of CEPEJ	Specific objectives	Tasks	Means
<p><b>Contribute to the respect by courts of the timeframes of proceedings for reaching optimum and foreseeable judicial timeframes</b></p>	<p>To develop tools for judicial time management and other mechanisms to have a better knowledge of timeframes in judicial procedures and to find remedies for excessive length of proceedings.</p>	<p>Development of guidelines allowing the implementation of a system of case weighting.</p> <p>Development of guidelines allowing the preparation or implementation of dashboards within courts.</p> <p>Experimentation among chosen courts of the implementation guide “Towards European timeframes for judicial proceedings”</p> <p>Update of guidelines on judicial time management.</p> <p>Elaboration of a tool on the role of parties and professionals in preventing excessive length of procedure</p>	<p>4 meetings of the CEPEJ-SATURN</p> <p>2 ad hoc expert meetings on case weighting and/ or dashboards.</p> <p>3 to 4 scientific experts</p> <p>Co-operation with the Network of pilot courts</p> <p>Co-operation with the ECtHR Registry and the Department for the execution of judgements</p> <p>Co-operation with lawyers, particularly via the CCBE.</p> <p>Co-operation with CEPEJ-GT-EVAL and CEPEJ-GT-QUAL</p> <p>4 plenary meetings of CEPEJ</p>
	<p>To promote the implementation of the SATURN tools and guidelines within courts</p>	<p>Implementation of the court coaching programme on judicial time management in volunteer European courts</p> <p>Implementation of tailor-made large scale programmes for supporting the implementation of SATURN tools in a large number of courts</p>	<p>Support to the volunteer courts for organising the programme (including translation of relevant documents); scientific experts made available to the volunteer courts; reports provided by the courts</p> <p>Co-operation with the Network of pilot courts</p> <p>Specific co-operation programmes in co-operation with other partners (namely EU) in member and partner States and entities (including Albania, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kosovo*<sup>1</sup>, Latvia, Malta, Republic of</p>

\* All references to Kosovo, whether the territory, institutions or population, in this text shall be understood in full compliance with United Nation's Security Council Resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

General responsibilities of CEPEJ	Specific objectives	Tasks	Means
			Moldova, Republic of Slovakia, Spain, Tunisia) including in particular: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- evaluation of the situation of case flow management in courts,</li> <li>- expert support to pilot courts,</li> <li>- training of judicial staff (including training of trainers)</li> <li>- participation of the partners in the CEPEJ multilateral activities</li> </ul>
<b>Promoting quality of judicial systems and courts</b>	To implement the principles of the European Ethical Charter on the use of artificial intelligence in judicial systems	To ensure the dissemination of the CEPEJ European Ethical Charter on the use of artificial intelligence in judicial systems and to consider means of ensuring the effective implementation of its principles.	4 meetings of CEPEJ-GT-QUAL  Scientific experts  4 plenary meetings of CEPEJ  Co-operation with the Network of pilot courts
	To improve access to justice for the court users	Communicate clearly and simply with the litigant, particularly in the drafting and communication phase of judicial decisions	
	To support courts in improving their communication and then strengthening public trust in their justice system	The centrality of the user in legal proceedings, particularly in civil matters	
	To ensure a qualitative framework as regards the career of judges	Tool to ensure diversity in the recruitment and promotion of judges	2 meetings of CEPEJ-GT-QUAL  Scientific experts  4 plenary meetings of CEPEJ  Co-operation with the Network of pilot courts and the CCJE

General responsibilities of CEPEJ	Specific objectives	Tasks	Means
	To measure the perception that users have of their judicial system	Implementation of the court coaching programme for measuring the users' satisfaction as regards the public service provided by European courts	<p>Support to the volunteer courts for organising the programme (including translation of relevant documents); scientific experts made available to the volunteer courts for organising the surveys and analysing the results; reports provided by the courts</p> <p>Co-operation with the Network of pilot courts</p> <p>Specific co-operation programmes in co-operation with other partners (namely EU) to support the implementation of court users' satisfaction surveys and the analysis of the subsequent results</p>
	To strengthen the use of mediation within the judicial system	Drafting of new tools aimed at facilitating the implementation of the Council of Europe's recommendations in the field of mediation and more widely the use of mediation within the judicial systems of the member and partner States	<p>Scientific experts</p> <p>4 plenary meetings of CEPEJ</p> <p>Co-operation programmes together with other partners (including EU)</p>
<b>Developing targeted co-operation at the request of one or more States and promoting the use of CEPEJ tools</b>	To provide guidance for improving the organisation of judicial systems and courts in some member and partner States	<p>Use of CEPEJ methodology and tools in implementing Council of Europe co-operation programmes for judicial reforms</p> <p>Answer to punctual requests by member and observer States regarding specific aspects of their judicial system.</p> <p>Strengthening the pool of CEPEJ experts prepared to participate in co-operation activities</p>	<p>CEPEJ members and experts participating in Council of Europe co-operation activities</p> <p>2 training sessions for CEPEJ experts</p> <p>2 working meetings of CEPEJ experts</p>
	To promote relations with national and international bodies competent in the field of justice	Active participation of CEPEJ members and experts in the implementation of the Council of Europe co-operation programmes for judicial reforms	<p>CEPEJ members and experts participating in Council of Europe co-operation activities</p> <p>Support for theses of a European nature</p>

General responsibilities of CEPEJ	Specific objectives	Tasks	Means
		<p>Support to academic research and teaching</p> <p>Provision to member States and the European legal community of wide-ranging information on the operation of justice in Europe and on the CEPEJ tools.</p>	<p>concerning the organisation of justice</p> <p>Participation of CEPEJ members/experts in training sessions</p> <p>Continue developing the CEPEJ web site and the CEPEJ Newsletter</p> <p>CEPEJ presence on social networks</p> <p>CEPEJ's Representation in other fora</p>
	<p>To ensure a good knowledge of the CEPEJ's measures and tools in the central administrations and among the justice professionals</p>	<p>Active participation of CEPEJ members and experts in the implementation of the Council of Europe co-operation programmes for judicial reforms</p> <p>Translation of CEPEJ's documents in non-official languages</p> <p>Dissemination of CEPEJ's documents among justice professionals and in judicial training institutions</p> <p>Awareness raising within the ministries of justice and other relevant political bodies (parliaments, ...)</p>	<p>CEPEJ members and experts participating in Council of Europe co-operation activities</p> <p>Continue developing the CEPEJ web site and the CEPEJ Newsletter</p> <p>CEPEJ presence on social networks</p> <p>CEPEJ's Representation in other fora</p>



General responsibilities of CEPEJ	Specific objectives	Tasks	Means
<p><b>Analysing and developing relevant tools on emerging issues such as the use of cyberjustice and artificial intelligence in judicial systems as regards the efficiency and quality of judicial systems,</b></p>	<p>To regularly consider the various challenges in the justice of 21<sup>st</sup> century in order to provide public decision-makers, legal professionals and users of justice with tools to support the evolution of judicial systems towards cyberjustice</p>	<p>Development of tools that take into account developments in justice and technological developments that have an impact on the functioning of justice</p> <p>Strengthen the pool of experts specialised in cyberjustice</p>	<p>4 meetings of CEPEJ-GT-CYBERJUST</p> <p>Hearings on specific problematics during working groups meetings</p> <p>CEPEJ's Representation in other fora</p> <p>CEPEJ presence on social networks</p> <p>Scientific experts</p> <p>2 sessions of training for CEPEJ experts</p> <p>4 plenary meetings of CEPEJ</p> <p>Co-operation with the Network of pilot courts</p>
	<p>To face the challenges posed by artificial intelligence and predictive justice</p>	<p>Participation and organisation of fora on artificial intelligence in judicial systems</p>	<p>4 meetings of CEPEJ-GT-CYBERJUST</p> <p>Scientific experts</p> <p>4 plenary meetings of CEPEJ</p> <p>Co-operation with the Network of pilot courts</p> <p>CEPEJ Conference</p>

General responsibilities of CEPEJ	Specific objectives	Tasks	Means
<b>Strengthening relations with users of the justice system and with national and international bodies</b>	To bring the justice system closer to the European citizens	<p>Organisation by the Council of Europe of the European Day of Justice (annual)</p> <p>Organisation by the Council of Europe of the European Prize: "Crystal Scales of Justice" (biennial, 2021)</p> <p>Organisation by the Council of Europe of the European Prize: Junior Crystal Scales of Justice" (biennial, 2020)</p>	<p>Annual promotion of the European Day of Justice to national institutions and organisation of the flagship event (October 25)</p> <p>Call for nominations for the Crystal Scales of Justice, organisation of the jury, jury meeting (9 members), awards ceremony</p> <p>Website</p>
	To facilitate the understanding of, and access to, the CEPEJ's work	<p>To ensure the dissemination of the glossary of the definition of the main concepts used by the CEPEJ</p> <p>Improvement of the website and of CEPEJ-STAT</p>	<p>Internet site</p> <p>CEPEJ-STAT</p>
	To contribute to the debate and provide a forum for the legal community	<p>Provision of specific CEPEJ expertise to other Council of Europe bodies, to the European Union and more generally to the European judicial community.</p> <p>Provision of specific expertise to a wider legal public</p>	<p>Participation of CEPEJ representatives in the work of the CDCJ and the Venice Commission on justice and in relevant meetings of the CCJE, CCPE, CDPC and CDDH</p> <p>Participation of CEPEJ representatives in the work of other international organisations.</p> <p>Development of the CEPEJ web site</p>

## Appendix I

### European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice (CEPEJ)

Terms of reference of the Working Group on evaluation of judicial systems  
(CEPEJ-GT-EVAL)  
2020-2021

#### 1. Tasks

In accordance with article 7.2.b of Appendix 1 to Resolution [Res\(2002\)12](#), and under the authority of the European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice (CEPEJ), the Working Group on evaluation of judicial systems (CEPEJ-GT-EVAL) is instructed to implement the common tool set up by the CEPEJ which aims at evaluating in an objective manner the functioning of the judicial systems in Europe and those of its observers.

In order to fulfil its tasks, the CEPEJ-GT-EVAL shall in particular:

- a. determine and follow the implementation of the 2018 – 2020 evaluation cycle of the European judicial systems, including the national judicial data collection and processing and prepare the draft evaluation report to be adopted at the 34th plenary meeting of the CEPEJ;
- b. make proposals for the appropriate use of the results achieved thanks to the evaluation exercise that constitutes the basis of the Report “Evaluation of European judicial system-2020 edition” and allowing the development of indicators and the identification of orientations and trends observed among judicial systems in Europe, so that they may be used in a concrete and fruitful manner in public policies of justice ;
- c. pursue the development of the interactive CEPEJ-STAT data base;
- d. ensure the proper information and communication regarding the Edition 2020 of the Report and assess the impact of the Report in the member States;
- e. initiate, follow and approve studies using the data of the Report “European judicial systems – Edition 2020”, with a view to publishing them;
- f. organise the 2020 – 2022 cycle for evaluating European judicial systems, by advising in due time the national correspondents, organising the concrete modalities for data collection and processing as well as anticipating the structure and the outline of the next Report so as to guide the data processing;
- g. coordinate and supervise the drafting of the CEPEJ Study supporting the annual publication of the “EU Justice Scoreboard”, consisting in collecting and analysing data on the functioning of the judicial systems of the EU Member States, following the established CEPEJ methodology;
- h. coordinate and supervise the preparation of the CEPEJ Evaluation report by collecting and analysing data on the functioning of the judicial systems in Western Balkans States (exercise known as the European Union – CEPEJ “Justice Dashboard”), following the established CEPEJ methodology;
- i. coordinate and supervise possible other evaluation activities based on the same methodology;
- j. organise the implementation of the pilot peer review co-operation process on judicial statistics, analyse the conclusions of this process and, where appropriate, make recommendations aiming to:
  - support member States in improving the quality of their judicial statistics and developing their statistics system,
  - facilitate the exchange of experiences between national judicial statistics systems,
  - sharing good practices, identifying common indicators and facilitating knowledge transfer,
  - contribute to ensuring the transparency and accountability of the CEPEJ process for evaluating European judicial systems and to improving the process;

- k. organize *ad hoc* visits to member States in which difficulties have been observed in respect of the data submitted.
- l. develop training curricula concerning relevant CEPEJ tools;
- m. contribute to the implementation of the relevant co-operation programmes;
- n. set up and develop, in co-operation with the CEPEJ-GT-QUAL and the CEPEJ-SATURN, tools and indicators for measuring the performance of justice systems and courts.

## **2. Composition**

The CEPEJ-GT-EVAL shall be composed of 6 members of the CEPEJ or experts, as well as possibly 2 substitute members, proposed by member States through their CEPEJ members and appointed by the CEPEJ Bureau, with an in-depth knowledge in the field of the evaluation of judicial systems. Their travel and subsistence expenses are to be borne by the budget of the Council of Europe. Other experts appointed by the member States might participate in its work, at their own expenses.

The relevant Council of Europe and European Union bodies may be represented to the CEPEJ-GT-EVAL without the right to vote or defrayal of expenses.

The non-governmental organisations granted observer status with the CEPEJ may be invited by the Bureau to participate in the work of the CEPEJ-GT-EVAL, on a case-by-case basis, if the Bureau considers their attendance relevant for the quality of the work.

## **3. Working structures and methods**

The CEPEJ-GT-EVAL will organise 5 meetings and evaluation visits can be organised in some member States (on States request and subject to budgetary availability).

In carrying out its terms of reference, the CEPEJ-GT-EVAL may in particular seek the advice of the Network of national correspondents entrusted with the coordination of the answers to the evaluation Scheme.

It will also coordinate its work with other relevant CEPEJ's working groups (namely the CEPEJ-SATURN, CEPEJ-GT-QUAL and CEPEJ-GT-CYBERJUST)

It may also seek the advice of external experts and have recourse to studies by consultants.

## **4. Duration**

These terms of reference expire on 31 December 2021.

## Appendix II

### European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice (CEPEJ)

Terms of reference of the Working group on judicial time management (CEPEJ-SATURN)  
2020-2021

#### 1. Tasks

According to article 7.2.b of annex 1 to Resolution [Res\(2002\)12](#), and under the authority of the European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice (CEPEJ), the Working group on judicial time management (CEPEJ-SATURN<sup>2</sup>) is in charge of collecting specific information necessary for obtaining a sufficiently detailed knowledge of judicial timeframes in the member States to enable them to implement policies aiming to prevent violations of the right to a fair trial within a reasonable time as protected by Article 6 of the European Convention on Human Rights.

In order to fulfil its mandate, the CEPEJ-SATURN shall in particular:

- a. develop a tool helping to implement a case-weighting system;
- b. develop a tool enabling to better analyse the various timeframes according to the various steps of the procedure;
- c. analyse the case-flows, backlogs and timeframes of judicial proceedings and set up dashboards;
- d. develop, in co-operation with representatives of the profession of lawyer, rules for actors of justice as regards procedural timeframes;
- e. promote and assess the implementation in the member States of the SATURN Guidelines for judicial time management and update the Guidelines as needed;
- f. develop training curricula concerning CEPEJ tools related to judicial time frames;
- g. contribute to the implementation of the relevant co-operation programmes.

#### 2. Composition

The CEPEJ-SATURN is composed of 6 members of the CEPEJ or experts, as well as possibly 2 substitute members, proposed by member States through the CEPEJ members and appointed by the CEPEJ Bureau, with an in-depth knowledge in the field of judicial timeframes. Their travel and subsistence expenses will be borne by the budget of the Council of Europe. Other experts appointed by the member States might participate in its work, at their own expenses.

The relevant Council of Europe and European Union bodies may be represented on the Steering group without the right to vote or defrayal of expenses.

The non-governmental organisations granted observer status with the CEPEJ may be invited by the Bureau to participate in the work of the Working group, on a case-by-case basis, if the Bureau considers their attendance relevant for the quality of the work.

#### 3. Working structures and methods

The CEPEJ-SATURN will hold 4 meetings (subject to budgetary availability).

In carrying out its terms of reference, the CEPEJ-SATURN might rely on the CEPEJ Network of Pilot courts.

It will also coordinate its work with other relevant CEPEJ's working groups (namely the CEPEJ-GT-EVAL, the CEPEJ-GT-QUAL and CEPEJ-GT- CYBERJUST).

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<sup>2</sup> Study and Analysis of judicial Time Use Research Network

It may also the advice of external experts and have recourse to studies by consultants.

#### **4. Duration**

These terms of reference expire on 31 December 2021.

## Appendix III

### European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice (CEPEJ)

Terms of reference of the Working Group on quality of justice  
(CEPEJ-GT-QUAL)  
2020-2021

#### 1. Tasks

In accordance with article 7.2.b of Appendix 1 to Resolution [Res\(2002\)12](#), and under the authority of the European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice (CEPEJ), the Working Group on quality of justice (CEPEJ-GT-QUAL) is instructed to develop means of analysis and evaluation of the work carried out within courts with a view to improving, in the member States, the quality of the public service of the justice system, in particular vis-à-vis the expectations of the justice practitioners and users

In order to fulfil its tasks, the CEPEJ-GT-QUAL shall in particular:

- a. develop tools, indicators and means for measuring the quality of judicial work and the way in which this service is perceived by the users;
- b. develop and promote the principles of the “European Ethical Charter on the use of AI in the judicial systems and their environment”;
- c. develop a tool on how to ensure better diversity in the recruitment and promotion of judges;
- d. support courts and justice professionals in improving their communication with litigants, particularly in the drafting and communication phase of judicial decisions;
- e. prepare guidelines on the centrality of the user in proceedings, particularly in civil matters;
- f. develop relevant tools on mediation and promote the national mediation contact points network created by the CEPEJ-GT-MED;
- g. promote among courts the effective implementation of the Handbook for court users’ satisfaction surveys and analyse the results of such surveys and organise and implement the subsequent court coaching programme;
- h. develop other measures and tools supporting and improving the quality of the public service of justice implemented by member States, taking into account, in particular, the Checklist for promoting the quality of justice and the courts ([CEPEJ\(2008\)2](#));
- i. promote the translation and effective dissemination of the CEPEJ's relevant tools and measures;
- j. develop training curricula with training institutes, if appropriate, and concerning CEPEJ tools in the field of quality of justice;
- k. contribute to the implementation of the relevant co-operation programmes.

#### 2. Composition

The CEPEJ-GT-QUAL is composed of 6 members of the CEPEJ or experts, as well as possibly 2 substitute members, proposed by member States through the CEPEJ members and appointed by the CEPEJ Bureau, with an in-depth knowledge in the field of operation of courts, analyse of judicial practice and, when necessary, mediation. Their travel and subsistence expenses will be borne by the budget of the Council of Europe. Other experts appointed by the member States may participate in its work, at their own expenses.

The relevant Council of Europe and European Union bodies may be represented to the CEPEJ-GT-QUAL without the right to vote or defrayal of expenses.

The non-governmental organisations granted observer status with the CEPEJ can be invited by the Bureau to participate in the work of the CEPEJ-GT-QUAL, on a case-by-case basis, if the Bureau considers their attendance relevant for the quality of the work.

### **3. Working structures and methods**

The CEPEJ-GT-QUAL will organise 4 meetings (subject to budgetary availability).

In carrying out its terms of reference, the CEPEJ-GT-QUAL may rely on the CEPEJ Network of Pilot courts. It will also coordinate its work with other relevant CEPEJ's working groups (namely the CEPEJ-GT-EVAL and the CEPEJ-SATURN and the CEPEJ-GT-CYBERJUST).

It may also seek the advice of external experts and have recourse to studies by consultants.

### **4. Duration**

These terms of reference expire on 31 December 2021.



## Appendix IV

### European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice (CEPEJ)

Terms of reference of the Working Group on cyberjustice and Artificial Intelligence  
(CEPEJ-GT-CYBERJUST<sup>3</sup>)  
2020-2021

#### 1. Tasks

In accordance with article 7.2.b of Appendix 1 to Resolution [Res\(2002\)12](#), and under the authority of the European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice (CEPEJ), the Working Group on cyber-justice and Artificial Intelligence in judicial systems (CEPEJ-GT-CYBERJUST) is instructed to develop tools with a view to offer a framework and safeguards to member States and justice professionals willing to create or use ICT (information and communication technologies) and/or IA mechanisms in judicial systems in order to improve the efficiency and quality of justice, in coordination with the work of the European Committee on Legal Co-operation (CDCJ) and Ad Hoc Committee on Artificial Intelligence (CAHAI).

In order to fulfil its tasks, the CEPEJ-GT-CYBERJUST shall in particular develop concrete tools concerning:

- a. the use of ICT in judicial systems and in particular the quality requirements of the videoconference;
- b. artificial intelligence and ADR;
- c. artificial intelligence in civil, administrative and/or criminal procedure, in particular with a view to its modernisation within a digital framework;
- d. artificial intelligence and enforcement of judicial proceedings, in particular to improve the procedures within a digital framework;
- e. develop training curricula concerning CEPEJ tools in the field of cyberjustice and AI;
- f. contribute to the implementation of the relevant co-operation programmes.

#### 2. Composition

The CEPEJ-GT-CYBERJUST is composed of 6 members of the CEPEJ or experts, as well as possibly 2 substitute members, proposed by member States through the CEPEJ members and appointed by the CEPEJ Bureau, with an in-depth knowledge in the field of cyberjustice and IA applied in justice. Their travel and subsistence expenses will be borne by the budget of the Council of Europe. Other experts appointed by the member States may participate in its work, at their own expenses.

The relevant Council of Europe and European Union bodies may be represented to the CEPEJ-GT-CYBERJUST without the right to vote or defrayal of expenses.

The non-governmental organisations granted observer status with the CEPEJ can be invited by the Bureau to participate in the work of the CEPEJ-GT-CYBERJUST, on a case-by-case basis, if the Bureau considers their attendance relevant for the quality of the work.

#### 3. Working structures and methods

The CEPEJ-GT-CYBERJUST will organise 4 meetings (subject to budgetary availability).

In carrying out its terms of reference, the CEPEJ-GT-CYBERJUST will coordinate its work with other relevant CEPEJ's working groups (namely the CEPEJ-GT-EVAL, the CEPEJ-SATURN and the CEPEJ-GT-QUAL).

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<sup>3</sup> This acronym can be modified by the Working Group during its first meeting.

It may also seek the advice of external experts and have recourse to studies by consultants.

#### **4. Duration**

These terms of reference expire on 31 December 2021.