

## **Annex – Horizontal Priorities 2025-2027**

In view of ensuring a high level of security in the Union, and to contribute to the Specific Objectives of advancing information exchange, improving and intensifying cross-border cooperation and supporting the strengthening of Member States' capabilities, DG HOME has identified the following horizontal priorities at EU level.

### **Priority 1. Information Exchange**

Investing in actions to advance:

- the national implementation of the Directive on information exchange <sup>(1)</sup>
- the national implementation of automated exchanges of facial images in accordance with the Prüm II Regulation<sup>2</sup>
- the voluntary participation to European Police Records Index System (EPRIS) for automated exchange of police records in accordance with the Prüm II Regulation
- the information exchange projects between customs and police in the fight on drug trafficking
- the capacity of transferring and sharing large volumes of data and in setting out interoperable data formats to facilitate law enforcement cross-border cooperation
- the uptake at the national level of outcomes of EU funded research results that facilitate the law enforcement cross-border information exchange

### **Priority 2. Fighting Organised crime**

Investing in actions to advance:

- implementing the new requirements from the Asset Recovery and Confiscation Directive <sup>(3)</sup> to enhance financial investigators' capacity to uncover criminal assets as a key means to tackle high risk criminal networks
- dismantling of high-risk criminal networks, building methodologies and technologies (including AI tools) for the storage, management, enrichment, analysis and visualization of large datasets related to combating crime in order to enhance the intelligence picture on criminal networks
- the uptake at the national level of outcomes of EU funded research results that provide tools for fighting various forms of organised crime

### **Priority 3. Operational Cooperation**

Investing in actions to advance:

---

<sup>(1)</sup> [Directive \(EU\) 2023/977](#)

<sup>(2)</sup> [Prüm II Regulation \(EU\) 2024/982](#)

<sup>(3)</sup> [Directive \(EU\) 2024/1260](#)

- cooperation in the context of the European Multidisciplinary Platform Against Criminal Threats (EMPACT), through the establishment of ‘national EMPACT Support Teams’ (NEST) and in Member States ensuring the ‘drivership’ of (an) EMPACT priority(-ies)/ operational action plan(s) of teams supporting the ‘Driver(s)’ <sup>(4)</sup>
- the operational law enforcement cooperation among Member States in the follow up to the Council Recommendation<sup>5</sup>. This will accompany the establishment of a Commission technical expert group on operational law enforcement cooperation in 2025, which will be a forum tasked with identifying the needs of law enforcement authorities across the EU and proposing solutions to address these needs.

#### Priority 4. European Critical Communication System

Investing in actions to advance the finalization of Member States testbeds for the European Critical Communication System, as well as partial integration of completed Member States’ systems.

---

<sup>(4)</sup> The financing of staff can take the form of either an individual operation setting up and running the national EMPACT coordinated structure with 90% EU contribution (EMPACT being identified as a key priority in Annex IV of ISF Regulation), or under ‘*Operating Support*’ with 100% EU contribution.

<sup>(5)</sup> Council Recommendation (EU) 2022/915 of 9 June 2022 on operational law enforcement cooperation - [EUR-Lex - 32022H0915 - EN - EUR-Lex](#)