



EUROPEAN  
PUBLIC  
PROSECUTOR'S  
OFFICE

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EUROPEAN PUBLIC PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE  
11 AV. JOHN F. KENNEDY, 1855 LUXEMBOURG

**Luxembourg, 25 March 2021**

**EPPO/LCK/2021/099**

**Ms Marta CARTABIA**

**Minister of Justice of the Italian  
Republic**

**[segreteria.ministro@giustizia.it](mailto:segreteria.ministro@giustizia.it) By e-**

*mail only*

**Dear Minister,**

**Following up on our discussion on 17 March 2021 and your letter from 25 March 2021, I would like to confirm that, under the budgetary proposal of the European Commission adopted on 24 June 2020, the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO) will be able to start its operations with 20 full time European Delegated Prosecutors in Italy. Furthermore, I agree that these 20 European Delegated Prosecutors will be distributed among nine territorial offices, respectively located in Rome, Milan, Naples, Bologna, Palermo, Venice, Turin, Bari and Catanzaro, according to the criteria for repartition indicated in your letter.**

**I thank you for having informed me of your intention to submit shortly a proposal for a supplementary agreement concerning two additional European Delegated Prosecutors competent for proceedings before the Supreme Court of Cassation. I take this opportunity to confirm my agreement of principle, given to your predecessor Mr Bonafede, on the possibility of supplementing at short notice the 20 European Delegated Prosecutors to be recruited at this stage, should we come to the conclusion that it is necessary, not only to accommodate specific organisational rules of your judiciary but also to be able to deal with a possible variation of our actual workload, once we will have started operations.**

**The EPPO is an independent body responsible for investigating, prosecuting and bringing to justice the perpetrators of, and accomplices to, criminal offences affecting the financial interests of the European Union. The EPPO will begin its operations following a decision of the Commission, once it is set up.**

**In accordance with Article 17 (1) of the EPPO, upon a proposal by the European Chief Prosecutor, the European Delegated Prosecutors nominated by the Member States will be appointed by the College for a renewable term of five years.**

**According to Article 13 of the EPPO Regulation, the European Delegated Prosecutors will act on behalf of the EPPO in their respective Member States. They will be responsible for:**



- Investigations and prosecutions that they will have initiated, that will have been allocated to them or that they will have taken over using their right of evocation;
- Bringing EPPO cases to judgement;
- Acting in close cooperation by assisting and regularly consulting each other in cross-border cases, as per Article 31 of the EPPO Regulation.

In order to be able to start operations as early as possible, and in line with Article 17 (1) of the EPPO Regulation, I would be grateful if the Italian authorities could make the necessary arrangements so as to select the appropriate number of candidates as soon as possible.

Together with a description of the selection process, I would welcome receiving their Curricula vitae and motivation letters in English. My intention is to ensure a transparent appointment process of the European Delegated Prosecutors and to make an informed proposal to the College.

Please let me recall that, based on Article 17 (2) of the EPPO Regulation, "the European Delegated Prosecutors shall, from the time of their appointment as European Delegated Prosecutors until dismissal, be active members of the public prosecution service or judiciary of the respective Member States which nominated them. Their independence shall be beyond doubt and they shall possess the necessary qualifications and relevant practical experience of their national legal system."

In this context, I will be particularly looking at their ethical standards and personal integrity, their track record in prosecuting offences against the financial interests of the EU or financial fraud, as well as at their ability to work on cross border crimes.

Sincerely yours,

(e-signed)

**Laura Kovesi**

CC: **Andres Ritter (Deputy European Chief Prosecutor)**  
**Danilo Ceccarelli (Deputy European Chief Prosecutor)**  
**Olivier Ramsayer (EPPO)**  
**Milan Jaroh (EPPO)**