



Management Plan 2017

DG Justice and Consumers



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INTRODUCTION

DG Justice and Consumers' (DG JUST) mission is to uphold the Union's common values and make the lives of citizens and businesses easier and safer in a fairer single market based on mutual trust.

- To uphold common values, DG JUST is ensuring and promoting respect of the rule of law, the Charter of Fundamental Rights and specific rights such as data protection, free movement, electoral rights and other EU citizen's rights, gender equality, non-discrimination, rights of the child, consumer protection and rights to a fair trial and of defence in criminal proceedings.
- To make the lives of citizens and businesses easier and safer, DG JUST is working on the modernisation of insolvency, company and contract laws, fair market conditions for consumers, the participation of women in the labour market, social inclusion of vulnerable groups, including Roma, mutual recognition and enforcement of judicial decisions, and the fight against money laundering and fraud against EU financial interests, in particular through the establishment of a European Public Prosecutor Office.

DG JUST's mission is directly linked to four of the Commission priorities: an area of justice and fundamental rights based on mutual trust, a deeper and fairer internal market, a connected digital single market and a Union of democratic change. It also contributes to other priority areas such as a deeper and fairer EMU, a new boost for jobs, growth and investment, and a more resilient Energy Union.

The different strands of DG JUST activities are interrelated. For example, seven units from four directorates contribute in a coordinated manner to the European Semester by providing country-specific and comparative expertise on the effectiveness of national justice systems, the insolvency framework, the labour market participation of women, Roma integration, company law and consumer market conditions.

DG JUST's activities on legal enforcement are particularly important. DG JUST is responsible for the implementation of an important number of EU legal instruments. All directorates deal with infringements proceedings and complaints. In 2017, the following new instruments will be applicable:

- 1) Regulation establishing a European Account Preservation Order (655/2014);
- 2) Regulation on promoting the free movement of citizens by simplifying the requirements for presenting certain public documents (2016/1191);
- 3) Directive regarding the European Investigation Order in criminal matters (2014/41/EU);
- 4) Regulation on information accompanying transfers of funds (2015/847);
- 5) Regulation on insolvency proceedings (2015/848);
- 6) Directive on the prevention of the use of the financial system for the purposes of money laundering or terrorist financing (2015/849);

7) Regulation establishing a European Small Claims Procedure (2015/2421) and regulation creating a European order for payment procedure (1896/2006).

In addition to ensuring the correct implementation of EU laws under its responsibility, DG JUST also has a particular responsibility for improving the enforcement and remedy capacities in Member States and to ensure adequate cross-border and EU-level cooperation. This includes, in particular, DG JUST's work on the effectiveness and efficiency of national justice systems and consumer law enforcement, support for the work of data protection authorities, equality bodies, human rights institutions and ADR bodies, and tools such as online dispute resolution to facilitate access to redress for consumers.

DG JUST's output also includes monitoring reports, comparative information tools, country specific recommendations, support for judicial networks and NGOs through programmes, the monitoring of three agencies, support for judicial training, awareness-raising activities, and mainstreaming of fundamental rights, equality and consumers in other EU policy areas.

PART 1. MAIN OUTPUTS FOR THE YEAR

This management plan covers the activities of DG Justice and Consumers for 2017, a year of intense political delivery and stepped-up implementation. It sets out the policy ambitions for the year and DG JUST's contribution to the achievement of the Commission priorities, in particular a connected digital single market, a deeper and fairer internal market with a strengthened industrial base, an area of justice and fundamental rights based on mutual trust and a Union of democratic change. It also describes DG JUST's operational activities and how we take account of resources at our disposal: people, budgets, IT infrastructure. Moreover, it sets out our work on communication and better regulation.

General Objective "A Connected Digital Single Market"

Specific objectives:

Highest level of protection of privacy and personal data

The negotiations of the data protection package, composed of the General Data Protection Regulation and the Police Directive, were concluded in May 2016. The General Data Protection Regulation entered into force on 24 May 2016 and shall apply from 25 May 2018. It will modernise and strengthen EU data protection and make the fundamental right of data protection more effective. At the same time, it will put an end to the current patchwork implementation of EU data protection law, giving business and public administrations a simplified, directly applicable regulatory framework.

DG JUST will use the transition period to work with Member States, with the data protection authorities, as well as with businesses and civil society, to ensure that the rules are well understood and that they will be applied in a uniform way. Member States must examine their existing laws and assess what must be repealed, maintained, amended or introduced.

In order to avoid that different standards of data protection apply inside and outside the EU institutions, in 2017 DG JUST will draft a Commission proposal for amended data protection rules for EU institutions, bodies, offices and agencies (Regulation 45/2001), to bring it into line with the General Data Protection Regulation.

Increased share of businesses and consumers engaging in online trade cross-border, enhanced consumer and business confidence in buying and selling online, as well as in accessing and making use of digital content

During 2017 DG JUST will work to advance the negotiations on the proposals for two Directives, covering: (i) fully harmonised rules on conformity and remedies for digital content (music, video, games etc.) and (ii) fully harmonised rules on conformity and remedies for online and other distance sales of goods. These proposals aim to do away with varying national legislation in the area of key mandatory consumer contract law rules that have been identified as obstacles to cross-border trade.

Following on the Communication on Digitising European industry (COM(2016)180 final) DG JUST will cooperate with other DGs, in particular CNECT and GROW, to develop the main principles guiding a possible EU framework in the emerging areas of data access and re-use rules and to explore the legal frameworks for autonomous systems and IoT applications, in particular safety and liability rules. In this context DG JUST will in particular analyse the legal challenges related to the contractual transfer of/access to data and to liability in the context of the Internet of Things.

During 2017 DG JUST will work to advance the negotiations on a proposal to update and modernise the Consumer Protection Cooperation Regulation (CPC Regulation 2006/2004). The objective is to strengthen the current cooperation framework to make it more effective for online markets and to tackle malpractices spreading across the EU in a simultaneous manner, affecting many consumers at the same time. More equal enforcement of consumer legislation across the EU will boost confidence in cross-border trade both for consumers and traders and will permit a level playing field for businesses operating across borders. DG JUST will continue using the existing CPC Regulation to develop coordinated enforcement actions with the Member States so as to address illegal market behaviour infringing consumer legislation.

Work with national authorities will also continue on: the screening of websites ("sweeps") to check the correct implementation of consumer legislation, the monitoring of the implementation of the 2015 coordinated action on car rental and frequent online issues such as unwanted subscriptions, or unfair contract terms. The grants to be awarded to CPC authorities aim at strengthening cross-border enforcement capacities in the Member States and at preparing action for the modernisation of the functioning of the CPC regulation. They will notably bring improvements of the efficiency of the CPC network when it comes to alert gathering and sharing of enforcement plans and prioritisation, work with representatives of various stakeholder groups such as other concerned authorities, trade and consumer associations. Moreover, to tackle effectively infringements in e-commerce, more investment in e-enforcement capacities in the Member States is needed (such as for internet investigation laboratories).

General Objective "A Deeper and Fairer Internal Market with a Strengthened Industrial Base"

Specific objectives:

Empowered energy consumers and enhanced competition through improved and comparable information on billing and offers, and improved tools for comparison and switching. A coherent framework to protect and incentivise consumers to opt for smarter consumption modes and self generation.

DG JUST will work with DG ENER on the Clean Energy for All Europeans Package¹ to provide evidence (including by means of studies on residential prosumers and on billing), policy input and to reach out to consumer stakeholders in order to support the upcoming negotiations with the Parliament and Council and the subsequent implementation of the Package. The Package includes legislative proposals, as well as actions on:

- Energy efficiency and energy performance of buildings;
- Renewables and bio-energy;
- Wholesale and retail electricity market design;
- A new governance system for the Energy Union;
- Energy efficient and more durable products (ecodesign/energy labelling).

Moreover, as recognised in the Clean Energy for All Europeans Package, many consumers pay too much for their bills² and are not aware of the possibility to switch providers or how to save energy by improving the energy efficiency of their homes and changing their energy consumption behaviour. Awareness of the issue of energy poverty is now widespread at EU level and there is a clear mandate to take more concrete action to alleviate it.

Furthermore, DG JUST will also continue to cooperate with other Commission services (DG ENV, GROW, CLIMA, MOVE, JRC, DEVCO etc.) on Sustainable Consumption/Green Economy initiatives planned in 2017, for example in the context of the EU Action Plan on the Circular Economy or in specific sectors such as transport (Low-Emission Mobility Strategy).

Consolidated and improved consumer rights in the internal market

Relevant and timely consumer evidence to inform key policy actions will be developed for the REFIT Fitness Check of EU consumer and marketing law. In addition, DG JUST will analyse areas such as marketing through social media,

¹ <https://ec.europa.eu/energy/en/news/commission-proposes-new-rules-consumer-centred-clean-energy-transition>

² According to the Energy Prices and Costs in Europe report published in the Clean Energy for All Europeans Package, the share of total expenditure on energy products is inversely proportional with income; poorer-income households spend approx. 8% on energy products while high-income households spend approx. 4%

transparency of online platforms and personalised pricing and offers online. This evidence will also inform enforcement activities.

The Fitness Check on EU consumer and marketing law aims at identifying excessive regulatory burdens, overlaps, gaps, inconsistencies and obsolete measures which may have appeared over time, as well as the cumulative impact of the relevant instruments. It explores ways to improve the application of the current EU legislation, and its results will determine whether there is a need for further legislative action at EU level taking into account, in particular, legal "grey zone" areas such as the collaborative economy or the need for more effective contractual remedies for victims of misleading marketing. The data gathering and consultations with stakeholders will continue in 2017, leading to the adoption of a Report in the first half of 2017. In parallel, DG JUST is preparing the legally required evaluation report on the implementation of the Consumer Rights Directive 2011/83/EU which will be adopted at the same time. As mentioned in the Commission Work Programme 2017, the Fitness Check will be followed up by an assessment on how to modernise the current EU consumer law acquis, including a possible legislative proposal.

In the first half of 2017, the Database on the Unfair Commercial Practices Directive and the Consumer Law Compendium will be updated and merged in a new Consumer Law Database which will become part of the e-Justice Portal in order to disseminate knowledge about EU and national rules, case-law and administrative practice in the field of consumer law. In 2017, the EU pilot project (sponsored by the European Parliament) on training SMEs in the digital age in the field of consumer law will deliver first training materials.

Throughout 2017, the Commission will assist Member States in the transposition of the Directive 2015/2302/EU on package travel and linked travel arrangements by means of workshops for national experts and supporting documents. In parallel, the Commission will seek a negotiation authorisation from the Council for possible EU accession to the Convention on the protection of tourists and tourism service providers which the UNWTO (United Nations World Tourism Organisation) aims to adopt at its General Assembly in September 2017. Together with the Member States that are parties to the UNWTO, the Commission aims that the international rules are largely inspired by the EU rules on package travel.

DG JUST will also provide input to the various initiatives planned in the area of transport and passenger rights, including notably the Revision of Regulation 1371/2007 on rail passengers' rights and obligations and the evaluation of Regulation 1008/2008 on common rules for the operation of air services in the Community.

Data from the Consumer Scoreboards and relevant studies will inform the Annual Growth Survey and Country Reports under the European Semester, in areas such as e-commerce, telecoms, energy, financial services.

In the field of financial services, which rank among the worst performing markets for consumers according to the Consumer Markets Scoreboard, DG JUST will work with DG FISMA to ensure that consumer interests are taken into account, notably in initiatives to be adopted based on the results of the Green Paper on retail financial

services. In particular, the work with national authorities within the CPC network on drafting common principles on creditworthiness assessment will be relevant.

The implementation of the Directive on Payment Accounts in 2016 provided all EU consumers with a right to open a basic bank account and a simple and quick procedure for switching bank accounts. In the future the transparency and comparability of fees will also be enhanced. DG JUST will work on the Regulatory Technical Standards and Implementing Technical Standards relating to the transparency chapter of the Directive on the basis of drafts to be prepared by the European Banking Authority by April 2017.

In order to enhance the consumer rights and put them at the centre of the internal market DG JUST will continue to secure the engagement of the consumer organisations. DG JUST will support EU level and national consumer organisations via the consumer capacity building, education and awareness raising activities, empowering and enabling actions.

Consolidated and enhanced product safety through effective market surveillance in the Union

Ensuring that products are safe is a basic objective and a critical challenge. Our policy supports a coordinated and coherent approach to safety across the EU and a high degree of market surveillance: unsafe products have no place on the EU market.

DG JUST will cooperate with DG GROW to develop a comprehensive set of actions to further enhance efforts to keep non-compliant and unsafe products from the EU market, notably by strengthening market surveillance, as set out in the Single Market Strategy. In this context, DG JUST and DG GROW will jointly issue guidance for market surveillance authorities to ensure effective enforcement of safety rules regarding products sold online.

As part of the Single Market Strategy, the Commission is currently working on a comprehensive set of actions to strengthen enforcement and compliance in the single market for products. In particular, in 2017 the Commission wants to further boost the use and impact of product safety alerts and make the EU's rapid alert system faster and even more efficient.

As a big share of dangerous consumer products originate in third countries, DG JUST will step up international cooperation, notably with the US and China. Given that China's product safety system is undergoing certain changes at the moment, DG JUST will co-operate to improve the safety of consumer products with the competent Chinese authority.

Easier resolution of disputes and recovery of claims, including across borders, for consumers and individuals

The revised Small Claims Regulation allows citizens and companies to recover claims of a small amount on the basis of a uniform procedure throughout the EU. The revision extends the scope of the procedure to the claims of a value up to EUR 5,000, promotes electronic service of documents and modernises the procedure enhancing use of distance means of communication for the purpose of conducting

hearings and taking evidence. This should make the European Small Claims Procedure a faster and cheaper tool for the recovery of claims by consumers and SME's. The Regulation will enter into application on 14 July 2017. Before entry into application a delegated act on its implementation must be adopted.

In 2017 DG JUST will prepare an evaluation of the 2013 Recommendation on Collective Redress.

In 2017 DG JUST will also continue to support the ODR platform, an EU-wide platform to facilitate the out of court resolution of contractual disputes between EU consumers and traders over domestic and cross-border purchases made online. In particular, DG JUST will further raise the awareness of consumers and traders about the platform, will monitor the implementation of the ADR & ODR legislation in the Member States and assist ADR entities develop sectorial networks to facilitate their cross border networking. DG JUST will produce a first report on the functioning of the ODR platform.

The European Consumer Centres will continue to assist consumers who want to take advantage of the Single market when travelling to other EU countries or making online cross border purchases. In 2017, they will notably contribute to raise awareness on ADR/ODR systems.

Less differences between national insolvency regimes with the aim of increasing recovery rates and reducing time and costs of insolvency proceedings; and giving honest but bankrupt individuals a second chance in a reasonable time frame

Negotiations on a legislative proposal on preventive restructuring and second chance frameworks, relating to business insolvency will start early 2017. The objective of the Commission initiative is to offer to businesses an effective restructuring framework and give bankrupt, but honest entrepreneurs a second chance by discharging their debts in a reasonable time period. The legislative proposal sets minimum standards focusing on specific aspects of insolvency based on broad common principles. It covers early restructuring proceedings and second chance issues, some procedural aspects of formal insolvency proceedings as well as measures aimed at reducing the length and costs of all types of insolvency proceedings.

More legal certainty for commercial and financial transactions in the internal market (e.g. regarding the assignment of claims)

The law applicable to the assignment of claims is important for the functioning of financial markets, in particular to ensure legal certainty of financial transactions where claims are transferred or used as collateral.

Given the close relationship between the conflict-of-law rules concerning insolvency, securities and financial claims DG JUST will co-ordinate the work on the assignment of claims with the work on securities ownership led by DG FISMA. A joint public consultation covering both the area of assignment of claims and securities ownership will be launched in spring 2017 in order to prepare a legislative initiative by the end of the year.

Better business environment for investors, stakeholders and companies in the EU, in particular SMEs, more development/integration of the European capital markets by developing efficient EU rules concerning the formation, operation and transformation of companies and on the relationship between a company's management, board, shareholders and other stakeholders

As part of the Commission Work Programme 2017, DG JUST will prepare a company law initiative to facilitate the use of digital technologies throughout a company's lifecycle and cross-border mergers and divisions. This initiative aims to reduce the high costs companies face in cross-border situations and to provide legal certainty for all stakeholders involved. The initiative's focus is on setting out EU-wide procedures, with appropriate safeguards, for cross-border mobility of companies, like mergers, divisions and cross-border transfer of registered offices, and an "end-to-end" online cross-border registration of companies. It also intends to further streamline and provide digital solutions for filing and disclosure of company information, including access to it at EU level, and to remove obstacles in relation to cross-border mergers.

This company law package will also contain a proposal laying down efficient conflict-of-law to support the cross-border operation of companies. This initiative will determine which law applies to the formation, internal functioning and operations of companies. The substantive law and private international law parts of the company law package are complementary.

The proposal on the revision of the shareholder rights directive (tackling corporate governance shortcomings relating to listed companies and their boards, shareholders, intermediaries and proxy advisers) is in negotiations with a view to formal adoption in early 2017. DG JUST will prepare necessary implementing acts in the course of 2017.

The interconnection of business registers under Directive 2012/17/EU will allow access via the European e-Justice portal to certain information on companies and ensure that all EU business registers can communicate with each other electronically in a safe and secure way. To this end, DG JUST will continue very close cooperation with the Member States in 2017.

A proposal for amendments to the Capital Requirements Directive (CRD IV) and Regulation (CRR), relating inter alia to revision of the remuneration rules and other governance rules in order to take into account proportionality considerations, will be examined by the co-legislators in 2017. DG JUST participates in the negotiations.

In 2017 DG JUST will also follow up the public consultation on long-term and sustainable investment (carried out in 2016) to assess how investors integrate long-term factors, such as environmental, social and governance issues, into investment decisions. This contributes to the strategy on sustainable finance, announced in the 2017 Commission Work programme, to be developed with the support of a high-level expert group.

General Objective “An Area of Justice and Fundamental Rights Based on Mutual Trust”

Specific objectives:

More effective national justice systems

Effective national justice systems are key for upholding rule of law, enforcing Union's law and creating the necessary investment and business friendly environment which contributes to economic growth. For this reason, the Commission encourages Member States to improve the quality, independence and efficiency of their national justice systems. In 2017, DG JUST will continue to develop the EU justice Scoreboard which presents every year a comparative overview of the effectiveness of Member States' justice systems. DG JUST will also continue to closely monitor justice reforms, in particular in 14 Member States which are facing particular challenges in this area. DG JUST provides individual country assessments on shortcomings and improvements which are reflected in the European Semester Country Reports and in country specific recommendations (CSR). DG JUST will also ensure that European Structural and Investment Funds support justice reforms in Member States.

Better EU financial markets with a sound framework to combat money laundering and terrorist financing

The proposal to amend the 4th Anti Money Laundering Directive 2015/849 is in the legislative negotiations with a view to formal adoption in early 2017. Council Conclusions already point towards a short transposition period, which is expected to be still in 2017. The Commission will have to assess the correct transposition of this legislative instrument into national law.

As part of the implementation of Directive 2015/849, the Commission needs to issue a report on supranational risk assessment. The Commission will also have to adopt Regulatory Technical Standards (RTS) on additional measures in non-equivalent third countries and on the appointment of central contact points by mid-2017. The statistical collection foreseen in Directive 2015/849 will also be carried out in 2017.

Furthermore, the Commission will reinforce the cooperation between Financial Intelligence Units following the provisions of the Action Plan for strengthening the fight against terrorist financing of February 2016.

In line with the 4th Anti-Money Laundering Directive, the list of high-risk third countries with strategic deficiencies in the area of anti-money laundering or countering terrorist financing will be reviewed at least three times in 2017 based on latest available information sources to reflect progress made by those countries or new threats.

The Action Plan for strengthening the fight against terrorist financing of February 2016 provides that "The European Commission will engage with the Egmont Group of FIUs (financial intelligence units) in order to foster international cooperation in the field". The Commission will adopt a Decision to authorise its participation as an Observer to the Egmont Group in December 2016.

Finally, the Commission will adopt the necessary measures to enable the effective implementation of the Funds Transfer Regulation (Regulation 2016/847). It will have to issue a report on sanctions and monitoring and compliance measures based on article 22 of this regulation. It will also have to adopt the necessary Implementing Decision regarding article 355 TFEU countries.

In 2017 the Commission will start assessing the correct transposition of the Member States measures concerning the Market Abuse Directive 2014/57/EU

Enhanced rights deriving from the citizenship of the Union

Enabling people to exercise their rights as EU citizens will help to enhance trust and confidence in the EU. Enforcement of free movement rights – and tackling abuse of those rights – will enable Member States and citizens to draw the full social and economic benefits of free movement. Effective coordination and cooperation measures among the Member States granting consular protection to unrepresented EU citizens will reinforce the sense of identity attached to the EU citizenship.

EU citizenship should be an important element of the White Paper setting out a vision for the future of the European Union to be presented in March 2017.

In 2017, DG JUST will follow up on the Citizenship Report by an EU wide information awareness raising campaign on EU citizenship rights, including consular protection and electoral rights ahead of the 2019 European elections. DG JUST will also launch a study to analyse national schemes granting EU citizenship to investors in the context of safeguarding the essence of EU citizenship and its inherent values.

National authorities give effect to EU citizens' rights on the ground. Providing national authorities with training contributes to the effective exercise of citizens' rights. In this context, the use of the e-training tool for national administrations "Welcoming EU citizens – an e-training on EU rules on free movement" will be monitored and improved, where necessary.

DG JUST will also provide assistance to the Member States in the transposition of Directive 2015/637 (Consular Protection). Moreover, DG JUST will assess how to modernise the current rules on emergency travel documents (Decision 96/409/CFSP) for unrepresented EU citizens.

DG JUST will also finalise the study on EU policy options to improve the security of identity cards and residence documents of EU citizens residing in another Member State and of their non-EU family members. DG JUST will assess the next steps, options and their impacts in view of a possible legislative initiative.

Enhanced rights enshrined in the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights, including the rights of the child

The Commission will continue to mainstream the Charter of Fundamental Rights in all EU actions. The annual report on the application of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights will continue to be the monitoring tool to measure mainstreaming of the Charter. In addition, the Commission has invited the Fundamental Rights Agency to give visibility to existing fundamental rights reports in Europe in a one stop shop portal. The Annual Colloquium on Fundamental Rights

will bring together all stakeholders to improve cooperation and raise political engagement for the promotion and protection of fundamental rights in Europe.

In 2017 in particular, DG JUST will work on assessing the need, legal feasibility and the scope for horizontal or further sectorial action to strengthen the protection of whistle-blowers in EU law, while fully respecting the principle of subsidiarity. To this end, it will launch a public consultation and an impact assessment study that will assess both regulatory and non-regulatory options.

DG JUST will continue to promote the protection of the rights of the child, both inside the Commission and with external stakeholders with a main focus on strengthening child protection systems. The situation of children in migration will require continued specific efforts in 2017, following on from the outcome of the 2016 Forum on rights of the child.

DG JUST will continue on behalf of the Commission the dialogue with churches, religious associations or communities and philosophical and non-confessional organizations, under Article 17 TFEU.

DG JUST will prepare new proposals on the acceptance of accession to the 1980 Hague Convention on International Child Abduction of several third countries in 2017 to address the "backlog" of old accessions before the Court opinion 1/13.

A respected Rule of Law in the EU with any systemic threats addressed

The rule of law is one of the fundamental values upon which the European Union is based and the Commission adopted in 2014 an EU Rule of Law Framework to address systemic threats to the rule of law in any of the EU's Member States. In 2017 DG JUST will continue to monitor developments related to the Rule of Law in certain Member States. DG JUST will in particular continue to monitor the situation regarding the rule of law in Poland which is currently subject to the EU Rule of Law Framework. DG JUST will also promote the rule of law in EU, in particular in the context of the follow-up to the EP Resolution on a new mechanism on rule of law, democracy and fundamental rights and of the Council Rule of Law dialogue.

A more developed European area of Justice with more judicial cooperation in civil and criminal matters

Regarding judicial cooperation in criminal matters, negotiations on the proposal on strengthening the mutual recognition of confiscation and freezing orders to allow Member States to freeze and confiscate criminal assets more effectively in cross-border cases and thereby making sure that crime does not pay will start in 2017.

The Commission is also working on the follow-up of the 9 June 2016 Council conclusions on improving criminal justice in cyberspace. Law enforcement and judicial authorities need to obtain electronic evidence for their investigations, which is increasingly often stored or processed by private sector service providers that are located in another country than the investigating authority. The Commission will present solutions which aim to streamline mutual legal assistance proceedings, enhance direct cooperation with service providers and review rules on enforcement of jurisdiction in cyberspace.

In 2017 DG JUST will focus on assisting Member States with the implementation of the "Procedural Rights Package" (presumption of innocence, procedural safeguards for children, legal aid). In the next years DG JUST will focus on assisting Member States with the implementation and to monitor the transposition of the directives into national legislation.

With over 10 000 applications per year, the European Arrest Warrant (EAW) is the most successful EU instrument in criminal matters, but its application still raises issues. In 2017 the Commission will publish a Handbook for Practitioners and focus on monitoring the correctness of application of the Framework Decision in Member States and will continue contributing to the case-law of the CJEU by providing its opinions on preliminary ruling cases.

Regarding victims' rights, the EU has adopted an important body of legislation, including the 2012 Victims' Rights Directive, the 2011 legislation on protection orders in criminal and civil matters and 2004 Compensation Directive. All of these acts are now applicable in Member States. In 2017 the Commission will focus on monitoring their transposition and implementation and by assisting Member States in the implementation and application of the EU rules. In addition DG JUST will continue mainstreaming of victims' rights by ensuring the rights of specific groups of victims (victims of domestic violence, hate crime, cyber-crime or terrorism). In this regard, in 2017 DG JUST will notably contribute – in collaboration with DG HOME - to assisting Member States in the correct implementation of the Counter-terrorism Directive, which includes several provisions on protection, assistance and support to victims of terrorism.

Improving prison conditions has become a political priority also at EU level because they affect the efficient operation of EU mutual recognition instruments such as the EAW, and because of the danger of radicalisation in prisons. Poor detention conditions in many Member States are mostly the result of prison overcrowding and a high proportion of pre-trial detainees. Alternatives to detention are not used sufficiently or even do not exist in some Member States. In 2017 the Commission will enhance its cooperation with the Council of Europe by the creation of an EU network of national prison monitoring bodies and continuing its work on pre-trial detention.

On improvement of the Electronic Criminal Records Information System (ECRIS) with regard to third country nationals (TCN), the Council expects the Commission to complement the draft directive proposed in January 2016 with a regulation allowing for a central management of ECRIS-TCN. DG JUST is preparing a new proposal that will also take account of the results of the High Level Expert Group on information systems and interoperability expected in the first half of 2017. Internal discussions on the best way forward are still going on.

DG JUST will take stock of the progress made in the training of judges and legal practitioners since the adoption of the Communication on judicial training in 2011, with the aim of developing a new strategy for the period beyond 2020. In the area of e-Justice, DG JUST will continue towards making the European e-Justice Portal a one-stop shop for information on European justice and access to judicial procedures in the Member States, and start the preparation of a new Strategy for e-Justice for the period 2019-2025.

The legislative negotiations on the proposal to revise the Brussels IIa Regulation which is the cornerstone of international family law in the EU will continue throughout 2017. This Regulation establishes uniform jurisdiction rules for divorce, separation and the annulment of marriage as well as for disputes about parental responsibility in a cross-border context. The review aims at simplifying the procedures in the area of parental responsibility by reducing delays relating to the return of the child, the placement decisions, cooperation between the Central Authorities and eliminate unnecessary delays and costs related to the exequatur requirement.

Implementation work on two regulations in the area of family covering matrimonial property regimes (MPR) and property consequences of registered partnerships (RP) will start in 2017.

Implementation work on the Public Documents Regulation will start in 2017. The Regulation simplifies the administrative formalities required for the acceptance in one Member State of a public document issued in another Member State and cuts costs, thus facilitating free movement of citizens and companies in the Union.

The Commission will report on the application of the Regulation on the taking of evidence in civil or commercial matters in 2017. The report will assess the practical operation of the Regulation and evaluate its relevance and needs for improvements in the changed environment, where the use of electronic distance means of communication in the field of justice rapidly increased.

DG JUST will pursue the EU external policies to ensure due protection of citizens and companies at the international level. In particular, DG JUST is involved in negotiations of several international instruments aimed at support international trade and investment, such as the world-wide recognition and enforcement of judgments (at the Hague Conference of Private International Law) and the world-wide enforcement of mediated settlement agreements (in Uncitral). These negotiations will be at full speed in 2017.

A well-functioning European Judicial Network in civil and commercial matters with adequate resources

The Network is a core tool for the effective implementation of the Union acquis in the area of judicial cooperation in civil and commercial matters. The Network has provided substantial support to efficient judicial cooperation between Member States in civil and commercial matters and the full participation of its members is an integral part of the day to day implementation of the Union acquis in civil justice matters. The Commission concluded that no legislative intervention is needed; however, the operation of the Network may be improved. In 2017 the focus will be on improving the operations through the development of an electronic communication and registration tool within the Network and gathering of data on the operation of the civil justice instruments.

Less discrimination on the grounds of sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation and more Roma integration

Discrimination has no place in the Union. The EU policies to fight discrimination will continue to include improving knowledge of discrimination by raising awareness

among the population of their rights and obligations and the benefits of diversity, as well as, support for intermediary actors such as NGOs, social partners and equality bodies to improve their capacity to combat discrimination. The Commission will provide support to Member States to develop national policies and legislation combatting discrimination on all grounds through the work of the High Level Group on Non-Discrimination, Equality and Diversity.

DG JUST will continue to work towards the adoption of the Equal Treatment Directive, to ensure that discrimination on the grounds of religion or belief, age, disability and sexual orientation is prohibited in the same way as it is on grounds of sex and race or ethnic origin.

The Commission and the Member States will pursue the implementation of the 2011 EU framework for National Roma Integration Strategies up to 2020 as well as of the 2013 Council Recommendation on effective Roma integration measures in the Member states. A mid-term assessment of the Roma framework will be carried out in 2017. This will also aim to develop a longer term view on developing a post-2020 strategic approach to Roma integration.

The Commission will continue to have bilateral dialogues with the relevant authorities of some Member States regarding the implementation of their strategies. Furthermore, DG JUST will continue to support National Roma Contact Platforms.

The Commission has stepped up efforts to ensure the correct application of anti-discrimination legislation towards Roma in EU Member States and has launched infringement procedures due to discrimination of Roma children in education. Further cases concerning discrimination of Roma both in education and in housing are currently being assessed.

As far as sex discrimination is concerned, the Commission will continue to monitor and enforce the implementation of the EU *acquis* on sex equality, including regarding the transposition of Directives 2010/18 on parental leave, 2006/54 on sex equality in employment, 2004/113 on sex equality in access to goods and services, 92/85 on maternity leave and 79/7 on equal treatment between men and women in social security, as well as monitoring the follow-up to the Pay Transparency Recommendation³.

Less racism, xenophobia, homophobia, Anti-Semitism, anti-Muslim hatred and other related forms of intolerance

In 2017 DG JUST will continue to step up monitoring and enforcement of EU rules to combat racism and xenophobia in the Member States by means of criminal law. Particular priority will also be put on monitoring the progress of the Code of Conduct on countering illegal hate speech online and to step up cooperation with IT companies, civil society and member States in the High Level group on racism and xenophobia on promoting counter and alternative narratives, as well as fostering transparency.

³ Commission Recommendation of 7.3.2014 on strengthening the principle of equal pay between men and women through transparency, C(2014) 1405 final.

The High Level group on racism, xenophobia and all other forms of intolerance will be used as a platform for the drafting of best practice guidance to accompany the practical implementation of the EU rules on the ground by member States. Work on data collection and incidents recording will also continue. The Commission will also devote specific efforts to preventing and countering all forms of racism, xenophobia and intolerance (for instance homophobia and transphobia; antigypsism, afrophobia, etc.)

Via the work of its dedicated Coordinators on respectively combating anti-Muslim hatred and on combating Antisemitism, the Commission will continue to address these two phenomena in close cooperation with the respective communities and organisations.

More diversity in the workplace

In order to complement existing EU legislation on diversity and antidiscrimination at the workplace (such as the Employment Equality Directive, the Racial Equality Directive or the Directive on disclosure of non-financial and diversity information), DG JUST will continue promoting diversity in the workplace through inter alia, the EU Platform of Diversity Charters.

More support for EU Member States in key LGBTI-related areas and improved social acceptance

The Commission has started the implementation of the 'List of Actions to advance LGBTI Equality' published at the end of 2015 by launching an EU-campaign in this area. Further actions, including activities to support national policies and legislation targeting this group in the areas of non-discrimination, hate crime and hate speech, education and health will be carried out.

No gender-based violence and more victim support

In 2017 negotiations on the Proposals for Council Decisions on the EU accession to the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence, the so-called Istanbul Convention will be continued.

The Commission will continue to enforce the Victim's rights Directive and laws on European protection orders, in particular to ensure access to protection and support for those exposed to gender-based violence.

2017 will be dedicated to focused actions to combat violence against women. These actions will support and engage Member States, NGOs and professionals in combatting violence against women.

DG JUST in cooperation with ESTAT, will improve the availability, quality and reliability of data on gender-based violence, including in collaboration with EIGE and FRA.

DG JUST will continue to implement the measures set out in the Communication Towards the elimination of Female Genital Mutilation. The International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation and the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women will be marked with appropriate activities.

More safeguarding of the fundamental right to data protection in our external relations

DG JUST will work on negotiations on the modernisation of Council of Europe Convention for the protection of individuals with regard to automatic processing of personal data ("Convention 108") and the conditions and modalities of accession of the European Union to the modernised Convention. The modernised Convention 108 will ensure a high level of protection of fundamental rights and freedoms with respect to the processing of personal data and guarantee the consistency of Convention 108 with the EU data protection acquis, duly taking into account the on-going reform of the EU data protection legislation, since all twenty-eight EU Member States are Parties to the Convention 108.

DG JUST will intensify its work with international partners, at bilateral and multilateral level, on enabling data flows for while ensuring a high level of protection. This concerns data flows for both commercial and law enforcement purposes. The Commission intends to make use of the various instruments for international transfers as provided for in the GDPR and "Police Directive", including the possible adoption of adequacy decisions.

An adequate protection of EU citizens' personal data by US government and agencies

In 2017 the Commission will work with US authorities and national data protection authorities to ensure the full implementation of the Privacy Shield and prepare the first annual review.

The EU-U.S. data protection agreement in the police and criminal justice areas ("Umbrella Agreement") was concluded in December 2016. The adoption by the US of the Judicial Redress Act, allowing EU citizens to seek judicial enforcement of their privacy rights, was an important pre-requisite for the finalisation of the negotiations and the Parties agreed that the exchange of formal notifications triggering the agreement's entry into force would only be carried out once the US Attorney-General has made all necessary designations (of the EU/MS as "covered countries" and all the relevant US law enforcement agencies) under that Act. At the time of conclusion, it was expected that this would still happen under the Obama Administration. Once in force, this agreement will guarantee a high level of protection of all personal data when transferred between law enforcement authorities across the Atlantic.

Common data protection rules within the European Union in place

The negotiations of the "Police Directive" were concluded in May 2016 as part of the data protection package. The Police Directive entered into force on 5 May 2016 and EU Member States have to transpose it into their national law by 6 May 2018. It will ensure that the data of victims, witnesses, and suspects of crimes, are duly protected in the context of a criminal investigation or a law enforcement action. At the same time more harmonised laws will also facilitate cross-border cooperation of police or prosecutors to combat crime and terrorism more effectively across Europe.

DG JUST's focus in this two-year transition period will be to work with Member States, with the data protection authorities as well as with businesses and civil society to ensure that the rules are well understood and that they will be applied in a uniform way.

A reduced gender pay gap

DG JUST will work to tackle the gender pay gap and gender pension gaps, working closely with Member States to address the full range of its causes.

Key actions for this objective include: support for Member States' efforts to address the root causes of the gender pay and pension gaps, including through funding opportunities; issuing country-specific recommendations in the European Semester as appropriate; cooperating with equality bodies and supporting companies in their efforts to ensure equal pay; continuing to mark European Equal Pay Day with Europe-wide information activities and citizen outreach.

More equality between women and men in decision-making

DG JUST will continue to work on the pending proposal for a Directive on Gender Balance on Company Boards. DG JUST will continue to monitor progress towards gender equality in decision-making and to collect and disseminate further data on the representation of women and men in high decision-making positions.

Increased availability of childcare services

The most recent Annual Growth Survey confirmed that the equality policy objectives remain relevant for the European Semester exercise: the AGS text mentions the social investment in childcare and care facilities. A continuous monitoring and support for Member States in attaining the Barcelona targets on childcare is required. In the context of the 2017 work-life balance package, DG JUST will consider how to make the Barcelona targets more ambitious and reflect on a more comprehensive approach covering, for instance, care of other dependants, accessibility and quality.

Improved work-life balance for working parents and caregivers

The Commission will adopt a package of new legislative and non-legislative initiatives to address the challenges of work-life balance for parents and caregivers, with a view to improving women's participation in the labour market.

The most recent Annual Growth Survey confirmed that the equality policy objectives remain relevant for the European Semester exercise: the AGS text mentions the social investment in childcare; gender gap in terms of employment rate, improving work-life balance, care facilities, leave and flexible working arrangements as well as non-discriminatory tax system under the part on "Fostering employment".

General Objective "A Union of Democratic Change"

Specific objective:

Enhanced EU citizens' democratic participation, including through cross-border information and facilitated participation in the EP and local elections, and increased legitimacy and accountability of EU decision-making, including by building on the concept of "lead candidates"

In line with political guidelines to "bring the EU closer to its citizens" and "make it more democratic" and in particular in the perspective of the 2019 EP elections, actions to enhance the mobile EU citizens' political rights and to enhance democracy in the EU will be implemented.

Looking ahead to the 2019 EP elections, DG JUST will work towards increasing legitimacy and accountability of EU decision-making and promote best practices which help citizens vote and stand for EU elections. DG JUST will continue supporting the proposals put forward by the European Parliament on reforming the EP electoral procedure.

A number of actions specifically aimed at boosting participation in EP elections will be carried out. DG JUST will follow up on the study on possibilities for remote voting such as e-voting. A reflection on the implementation of EU law in local elections to ensure that EU citizens can effectively exercise their voting rights will take place in 2017.

DG JUST envisages organising events with OSCE, the EP and the Committee of the Regions to gather ideas and exchange best practices to boost democratic participation.

At the same time, DG JUST will work to ensure the full and correct application of the existing EU rules guaranteeing the electoral rights attached to the status of EU citizenship.

PART 2. MAIN ORGANISATIONAL MANAGEMENT OUTPUTS FOR THE YEAR

A. Human resource management

The HR Modernisation project implemented according to the Communication on Synergies and Efficiencies of April 2016 makes changes to the way that HR services are delivered. HR services will be delivered by an Account Management Centre (AMC) inside DG HR. Each DG will have an HR Business Correspondent, responsible for defining HR strategy and taking HR decisions, in consultation with the management of the DG, as well as ensuring that the DG gets the HR service it needs, in cooperation with the AMC.

DG JUST participated in the first pilot phase of HR Modernisation as from 15 July 2016. DG JUST is supported by AMC 5 which will serve the following group of DGs: Collège, COMM, EPSC, HOME, IAS, JUST, OLAF, SG, SJ.

As highlighted in its 2016-2020 Strategic Plan (SP), DG JUST promotes a modern human resource management based on actions regarding female representation in middle management, internal communication, staff engagement or mobility with an objective of having a highly-qualified and motivated staff performing in a supportive and healthy environment. Internal communication actions foster a good understanding of DG JUST priorities amongst staff, while sustaining engagement and sense of belonging, facilitating internal mobility and ensuring a smooth flow of information within the DG.

DG JUST has demonstrated a continued support and commitment to gender representation. Overall, 53% of managers in DG JUST are women and at senior management level, the situation of the DG is 57% (both well above the Commission averages respectively 32 and 30%). At middle management level, the female representation rate was 52% on the 1st of August 2016. Taking into account the target of 50% assigned to DG JUST, it should be emphasized that DG JUST has already exceeded its 2019 target. With those results, DG JUST demonstrates its will to lead by example in the area of gender equality which is directly under its mandate. The annual organisation of specific actions on 8 March for International Women's Day is another concrete example of the commitment of DG JUST in this domain.

The new Talent Management Strategy of the Commission has been translated in the DG into a 2016 Talent Management Action Plan defining concrete priorities and specific initiative. These actions aimed to address the output and concerns raised in the 2014 staff survey which showed that the average satisfaction rate within the Commission on career and mobility was very low (37% in the Commission) and the results for DG JUST were even lower (only 32%). To support the development of a mobility policy in DG JUST, a mobility questionnaire has been proposed to the staff in order to evaluate the needs and wishes of mobility inside the DG. In the context of the DG JUST reorganisation in October 2016, colleagues were invited to share their views on the organisation fitness and on their expectations about their career prospects via a specific functional mailbox (ShareYourViews). This participative and inclusive approach allowed to foster staff satisfaction and engagement and helped to better evaluate the career development needs and the understanding of DG JUST priorities and challenges amongst staff.

To support an efficient management of human resources and in the specific context of the reorganisation, DG JUST introduced a "Unit Management Plan" (UMP) as a complement to the Annual Management Plan. The document gathers, at a Unit level, all the HR information generally exchanged and discussed on an informal basis in a more structured presentation, to improve transparency and to better support decision-making at the level of the Management, either to align staff to priorities or to adapt the structure of the DG in a context of decreasing resources.

In the context of the increasing workload, DG JUST initiated the organisation of a Health Day on 14th June 2016. In that context, the Medical Service launched an anonymous questionnaire to support the creation of better tailor-made health projects and improve its offer to staff members. On that day, a team of doctors, nurses and psychosocial team members from the Medical Service visited staff members in their offices to answer their questions or offer one-to-one confidential mini-consultations. On a voluntary basis, staff members could attend information sessions about positive strategies for healthy lifestyle and disease prevention or participate to activities such as blood pressure testing, body mass composition measuring.

Objective: The DG deploys effectively its resources in support of the delivery of the Commission's priorities and core business, has a competent and engaged workforce, which is driven by an effective and gender-balanced management and which can deploy its full potential within supportive and healthy working conditions.

Main outputs in 2017:

| Output | Indicator | Target |
|--|---|--|
| Female representation in middle management | | |
| Monitoring of the evolution of the management population by gender and the female representation in middle management selection processes | Share of female representation in middle management positions | Maintain or increase the current percentage of 47,8% female representation in middle management of this percentage ⁴ |
| Staff engagement | | |
| Awareness raising on the role of the management in the identification of the training and development needs of their staff | Trainings participation rate and staff feedback | Improvement of the results on the question "My manager helps me to identify my training and development needs?" in the next staff survey (pm: 34% for DG JUST in 2016) |
| Internal talent management strategy that ensures current and prospective alignment between staff competence | - Internal or external thematic trainings on DG JUST's core files, lunchtime seminars by JUST units on their activities | - At least 1 thematic training/internal communication offer a month |

⁴ SP Indicator n°1: Percentage of female representation in middle management

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| and service needs to ensure an internal mobility and engagement of staff | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Seminars for Newcomers (HR matters, DG JUST policy matters) - Breakfast for Heads of Unit to discuss their role as managers, foster best practices and allow a constructive dialogue on difficult situations - Coaching sessions from another Director of the DG to offer the opportunity to the staff discuss any career project inside the DG or in the Commission | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Seminars for Newcomers (HR matters, DG JUST policy matters) twice a year - Breakfast for the Heads of Unit organised once a month with a participation rate of at least 50% |
| Second phase of "JUST Share Your Views" survey to gather feed-back of staff on DG JUST's reorganisation of 1/10/2016 | Response rate on "JUST Share Your Views" survey | > 30% of staff participation |
| Staff well-being | | |
| Action plan to strengthen well-being targeted to DG's staff needs | Internal offer for well-being and fit@work initiatives: Silence pauses/mindfulness sessions for the staff, breakfasts for the Heads of Unit, pilates | > 50% of positive answers on questions related to well-being in the next staff survey (pm: 52% for DG JUST in 2016) |

B. Financial Management: Internal control and Risk management

Internal control is noted in the context of the Commission's fundamental budgetary principles *and associated with sound financial management*. **Internal Control** is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance of achieving objectives. The internal control process will be implemented as corporately defined by BUDG, SG and OLAF in particular for what the antifraud strategy is concerned.

For what **the legality and regularity** of payments is concerned, it is ensured through the controls throughout the management of transactions: negotiations, contracting, payments etc.

Sound financial management is measured mainly through indicators defined in the Financial Regulation and reported in the Annual Activity Report such as time-to-inform, time-to-grant and time-to-pay. Already compliant in the previous years (i.e. within the deadlines specified in the Financial Regulation), close monitoring will be ensured in 2017 to keep the same level of performance.

Objective 1: Effective and reliable internal control system giving the necessary guarantees concerning the legality and the regularity of the underlying transactions.

Main outputs in 2017:

| Output | Indicator | Target |
|--|---|---------------------|
| Ex-post audits of directly management grants | Audit coverage for directly management grants | 10 % |
| Legality and regularity of direct management expenditure | Error rate – direct management: grants | Error rate below 2% |
| | Error rate – direct management: procurement | Error rate below 2% |
| | Error rate – indirect management | Error rate below 2% |

Objective 2: Effective and reliable internal control system in line with sound financial management.

Main outputs in 2017:

| Output | Indicator | Target |
|--|---------------------------------|--|
| Correctness of transactions following Ex-ante controls | Number of exceptions | < 0.1 % of total transactions |
| Efficiency in the transaction processing | Time to inform (Art 128.2 a FR) | Respect FR deadlines |
| | Time-to-grant (Art 128.2 b FR) | |
| | Time-to-pay (Art 92 FR) | |
| Appropriateness and satisfaction of the ICS | iCAT Survey Participation rate | 65 % (staff and management) |
| | iCAT Survey Satisfaction rate | 60 % (expressing good and above judgement) |

Objective 3: Minimisation of the risk of fraud through application of effective anti-fraud measures, integrated in all activities of the DG, based on the DG's anti-fraud strategy (AFS) aimed at the prevention, detection and reparation of fraud.

Main outputs in 2017:

| Output | Indicator | Target |
|--|--|--------|
| Implementation of OLAF recommendations | % of recommendations issued by OLAF implemented/closed by DG JUST within deadlines | 100% |

| | | |
|---|---|------------------------------|
| Anti- fraud strategy updated | Adoption of the updated AFS on the basis of the updated methodology provided by OLAF. | 2 nd quarter 2017 |
| Increased level of anti-fraud awareness | Number of participants from the DG in training sessions on anti-fraud | 40 |

C. Better Regulation

The main planned outputs linked to the Better Regulation objective in the Strategic Plan are listed in Part 1 under the relevant specific objective. They are presented in the tables under the headings "All new initiatives and REFIT initiatives from the Commission Work Programme" and "other important items".

D. Information management aspects

The Commission adopted a new corporate strategy for data, knowledge and information management in October 2016. The new strategy establishes a corporate framework while leaving room for DGs to develop and implement their own approaches tailored to their unique needs.

DG JUST complies with the document management policies of the Commission. The local Document Management Officer team verifies the application of the eDomec rules and helps implement them with the Document Management Correspondents. DG JUST uses exclusively BASIS for managing briefing requests. The use of collaborative spaces is encouraged. These elements are building blocks in preparing and implementing a knowledge management strategy that will allow fast dissemination of important information and time and consistency gains through re-use of already created knowledge.

Objective: Information and knowledge in your DG is shared and reusable by other DGs. Important documents are registered, filed and retrievable.

Main outputs in 2017:

| Output | Indicator | Target |
|--|--|---|
| Better use of electronic workflows, to reduce errors caused by the double circulation, to improve circulation speed, to reduce paper storage and all associated costs. | Number of registered documents with a fully approved e-signatory (no paper circulation in parallel). | 70% of registered documents approved in full electronic mode (without paper signatories circulation). |
| Knowledge Management strategy is developed in line | Adoption of the new strategy by senior management, (in line with the new Data, | Q4 2017 |

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| with the Communication on Data, Information and Knowledge Management | Information and Knowledge management Steering Board) | |
|--|---|--|

E. External communication activities

Citizens perceive that our European core values and principles – freedom, democracy, rule of law, equality, tolerance, and respect for human rights – are under pressure. At the same time, the fast development of the (digital) single market and the ever growing impact of globalisation requires citizens, as entrepreneurs, as consumers or as workers to adapt faster and to know better their rights and how to implement them.

DG JUST's external communication will therefore focus on what the EU does concretely to ensure that our core values are respected and that citizens can exercise their rights.

Efforts will concentrate on three main policy areas:

Digital Single Market: DG JUST will develop targeted information and awareness activities for business, in particular for SMEs (such as factsheets, social media actions, etc.) following the adoption of the **Data Protection package**.

Internal Market: DG JUST will develop an awareness-raising campaign to empower consumers about their **rights in the energy market**. Major attention will also be given to **Product Safety** and a continuation of the awareness-raising for **ADR/ODR**.

Justice and Fundamental Rights: JUST will engage in the continuation of the awareness-raising campaign for **fighting violence against women**. It will support local campaigns from national authorities as well as civil society. DG JUST will organise in close cooperation with FVP Timmermans the 3rd **Colloquium on Fundamental Rights** (topic still to be decided). Children's Rights will also be high on the agenda, in particular in the framework of migration and refugees. DG JUST will organise again a high level **Children Rights Forum**. Finally, DG JUST will carry out a social media awareness-raising campaign to advance **LGBTI equality**.

In addition to the above activities DG JUST will continue to reach out to the media, stakeholders and citizens by communicating concrete achievements.

Objective: Citizens perceive that the EU is working to improve their lives and engage with the EU. They feel that their concerns are taken into consideration in European decision making and they know about their rights in the EU.

Main outputs in 2017:

| Output | Indicator | Target |
|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Awareness raising on Data Protection | Social media - estimated reach | (only Facebook) |

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| Package | | 1,5 million |
| Awareness raising on energy consumer rights | Depending on outcome of ex-ante evaluation | |
| Awareness raising campaign ADR/ODR | Social Media - number of views | (twitter and facebook combined) 1,5 million |
| Awareness raising campaign fighting violence against women | Number of local campaigns supported | 30 |
| Colloquium on Fundamental Rights | Number of participants | 200 |
| Childrens Rights Forum | Number of participants | 200 |
| Awareness raising campaign for LGBTI equality | Number of local campaigns supported in targeted member states | 10 |

Annual communication spending:

| Baseline (2016) | Estimated commitments (2017) |
|-----------------|------------------------------|
| 2 000 000 | 2 000 000 ** |

Source: spending programmes for Justice, Rights, Equality and Citizenship and Consumers

** : Already earmarked for communication campaigns on political priorities

F. Example(s) of initiatives to improve economy and efficiency of financial and non-financial activities of the DG

In order to speed-up and simplify the financial circuit, DG JUST is putting in place a paperless procedure for financial de-commitments. The communication channel between JUST and SRD for these type of transactions will improve.

ANNEXES TO THE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Annex 1. Tables

| | | |
|---|---|--------------|
| Relevant general objective(s): A Connected Digital Single Market | | |
| Specific objective: Highest level of protection of privacy and personal data | Related to spending programme(s) Rights, Equality Citizenship | |
| Main outputs in 2017: | | |
| All new initiatives and REFIT initiatives from the Commission Work Programme | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
| Regulation on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies Planning JUST/2014/032 | Adoption of the Regulation by the College | January 2017 |
| Important items from work programmes/financing decisions/operational programmes | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
| | | |
| Other important outputs | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
| | | |
| Relevant general objective(s): A Connected Digital Single Market | | |
| Specific objective: Increased share of businesses and consumers engaging in online trade cross-border, enhanced consumer and business confidence in buying and selling online, as well as in accessing and making use of digital content | Related to spending programme Rights, Equality and Citizenship Consumer | |
| Main outputs in 2017: | | |
| All new initiatives and REFIT initiatives from the Commission Work Programme | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
| | | |
| Important items from work programmes/financing decisions/operational programmes | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
| Grants for joint actions to improve cooperation between national authorities responsible for the enforcement of consumer protection laws | Publication of the call for proposals | Q1 2017 |

| Other important outputs | | |
|---|---|--|
| Output | Indicator | Target |
| Two Directives on the supply of digital content and the online and other Distance Sales of Goods | Progress in the negotiations at the Council Working Groups organised by the MT and EE presidencies. Progress in negotiations in the European Parliament: vote in the Committees on both proposals. | June 2017/December 2017 May/June 2017 |
| Commission Communication on the emerging issues in the data economy Planning 2016/CNECT+/001 | Adoption by Commission | Q1 2017 |
| Update and modernisation of the CPC Regulation | Adoption by Council and Parliament | Mid 2017 |
| Relevant general objective(s): A Deeper and Fairer Internal Market with a Strengthened Industrial Base | | |
| Specific objective: Empowered energy consumers and enhanced competition through improved and comparable information on billing and offers, and improved tools for comparison and switching, enabling them to select the most suitable supplier and tariff, and thus reduce consumption and costs. A coherent framework to protect and incentivise consumers to opt for smarter consumption modes and self-generation | | Related to spending programme(s) Consumer |
| Main outputs in 2017: | | |
| All new initiatives and REFIT initiatives from the Commission Work Programme | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
| | | |
| Important items from work programmes/financing decisions/operational programmes | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
| Awareness-raising action on energy consumer rights such as switching, and household energy efficiency improvements aiming at helping to reduce energy bills and improve quality of life | Launch of the action | Q2/Q3 2017 |

| Other important outputs | | |
|--|---|--|
| Output | Indicator | Target |
| Relevant general objective(s): A Deeper and Fairer Internal Market with a Strengthened Industrial Base | | |
| Specific objective: Consolidated and improved consumer rights in the internal market | | Related to spending programme(s) Consumer Rights, Equality, Citizenship |
| Main outputs in 2017: | | |
| All new initiatives and REFIT initiatives from the Commission Work Programme | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
| Fitness Check of EU consumer and marketing law, covering Directive 2005/29/EC (Unfair Commercial Practices Directive); Directive 99/44/EC (Sales and Guarantees Directive); Directive 93/13/EEC (Unfair Contract Terms Directive); Directive 98/6/EC (Price Indication Directive); Directive 2006/114/EC (Misleading and Comparative Advertising Directive); Directive 2009/22/EC (Injunctions Directive). Planning 2017/JUST/023 | Adoption by the Commission of the final report on the Fitness Check | Q2 2017 |
| Follow-up of Fitness Check (including a possible legislative proposal) Planning 2017/JUST/063 | Adoption by the Commission | Q4 2017 |
| Important items from work programmes/financing decisions/operational programmes | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
| EU Pilot Project: SME training in the field of consumer law | Timely delivery by contractor of intermediate results of acceptable quality | From Q3 2017 |
| Consumer Law Database | Full integration in and accessibility via e-Justice Portal | Q3 2017 |

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| Capacity building of consumer organisations (notably Consumer Champion) through online training modules, local training and best practise exchange via the community online platform. | Launch of the action | Q2/Q3 2017 |
| Financial contribution to the functioning of a Union-level consumer organisation representing consumer interests (Operating grant) | Launch of the call | Q1 2017 |
| Enhancing consumer education (Consumer Classroom) including the teachers' interactive on-line platform on consumer education, the development of education measures and materials and promotional activities | Launch of the action | Q2 and Q4 2017 |
| Other important outputs | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
| Evaluation of the Directive 2011/83/EU on consumer rights Planning 2017/JUST/001 | Transmission of report to the European Parliament and the Council | Q2 2017 |
| Negotiation authorisation for possible EU accession to the UN World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) Convention on the protection of tourists and the rights and obligations of tourism service providers Planning 2015/JUST/056 | Adoption of a Council Recommendation authorising the opening of negotiation and negotiating directives | Q1 2017 |
| Consumer Conditions Scoreboard Planning 2017/JUST/062 | Publication by the Commission | Q3 2017 |
| Relevant general objective(s): A Deeper and Fairer Internal Market with a Strengthened Industrial Base | | |
| Specific objective: Consolidated and enhanced product safety through effective market surveillance in the Union | | Related to spending programme(s) Consumer |
| Main outputs in 2017: | | |
| All new initiatives and REFIT initiatives from the Commission Work Programme | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
| | | |
| Important items from work programmes/financing decisions/operational programmes | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
| Commission (implementing) decisions under the General Product Safety Directive 2001/95/EC on safety requirements to be met by European standards, on the | Adoption by the Commission | 2017 |

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| publication of references of certain standards, on standardisation requests to the European Committee for Standardisation | | |
| RAPEX related IT tools | Services for the maintenance of and upgrades to the IT systems for RAPEX financed under the 2017 annual work programme | No disruption of RAPEX IT systems and necessary maintenance and upgrades |
| Grants in support of cooperation and uniform application of EU consumer product safety legislation including international aspects | Number of product specific joint enforcement actions under the 2017 annual work programme and number of Member States participating | 3-4 product specific joint actions, and 66% of Member States participating in overall joint enforcement actions |
| Support to the exchanges of EU Member States and EFTA/EEA enforcement officials in the area of consumer safety (Directive 2001/95/EC) | Number of Member States' officials participating in funded exchange of officials under the 2017 | 30 |
| Educational campaign to children/young people/parents on the correct and safe use of certain products such as child care products or other consumer products where misuse would entail specific risks. | Launch of the action | Q3 2017 |
| Other important outputs | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
| Cooperation and uniform application of EU consumer product safety legislation including international aspects | Number of product specific joint enforcement actions under the 2017 annual work programme and number of Member States participating | 3-4 product specific joint actions, and 66% of Member States participating in overall joint enforcement actions |
| Relevant general objective(s): A Deeper and Fairer Internal Market with a Strengthened Industrial Base | | |
| Specific objective: Easier resolution of disputes and recovery of claims, including across borders, for consumers and individuals | | Related to spending programme(s) Rights, Equality, Citizenship Consumer |
| Main outputs in 2017: | | |
| All new initiatives and REFIT initiatives from the Commission Work Programme | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
| | | |

| Important items from work programmes/financing decisions/operational programmes | | |
|--|---|--|
| Output | Indicator | Target |
| Support for the Online Dispute Resolution Platform including for translation work and hosting of the platform | Implementation of the Agreement for translation concluded between DG JUST and the Translation Centre for Performing the translations of all ADR outcomes; | Throughout the year 2017 |
| Financial contributions for joint actions with bodies constituting the European Consumer Centres Network – ECC Net | Conclusion of the grant agreements with each ECC host | Q4 2017 |
| Capacity building activities in support of the European Consumer Centres; increasing the visibility and quality of services of European Consumer Centres. | Conclusion of 1-2 service contracts | Q1 and Q3 2017 |
| Other important outputs | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
| Delegated Act on the European Small Claims Procedure | Adoption by the Commission | Q2 2017 |
| Report on collective redress Planning 2016/PLAN/405 | Adoption by the Commission | Q2-3 2017 |
| Report on the functioning of the ODR platform | Adoption by the Commission | Mid 2017 |
| Relevant general objective(s): A Deeper and Fairer Internal Market with a Strengthened Industrial Base | | |
| Specific objective: Less differences between national insolvency regimes with the aim of increasing recovery rates and reducing time and costs of insolvency proceedings; and giving honest but bankrupt individuals a second chance in a reasonable time frame | | Related to spending programme(s) Justice |
| Main outputs in 2017: | | |
| All new initiatives and REFIT initiatives from the Commission Work Programme | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
| | | |
| Important items from work programmes/financing decisions/operational programmes | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
| | | |
| Other important outputs | | |

| Output | Indicator | Target |
|--|--|--|
| Proposal on preventive restructuring and second chance frameworks | Progress in the negotiations at the Council Working Groups organised by the MT and EE presidencies Progress in negotiations in the European Parliament: vote in the Committee | June /December 2017 December 2017 |
| Specific objective: More legal certainty for commercial and financial transactions in the internal market (e.g. regarding the assignment of claims) | | Related to spending programme(s) Justice |
| Other important outputs | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
| Proposal on assignment of claims Planning 2017/JUST/015 | Adoption | Q4 2017 |
| Relevant general objective(s): A Deeper and Fairer Internal Market with a Strengthened Industrial Base | | |
| Specific objective: Better business environment for investors, stakeholders and companies in the EU, in particular SMEs, more development/integration of the European capital markets by developing efficient EU rules concerning the formation, operation and transformation of companies and on the relationship between a company's management, board, shareholders and other stakeholders | | Related to spending programme(s) Justice |
| Main outputs in 2017: | | |
| All new initiatives and REFIT initiatives from the Commission Work Programme | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
| Company Law Package, including initiatives to facilitate the use of digital technologies throughout a company's lifecycle, and cross-border mergers, divisions and conversion (the transfer of registered office) Planning 2017/JUST/011 | Adoption of the legislative proposal | Q4 2017 |
| Proposal on the law applicable to companies (linked to company law package) Planning 2017/JUST/007 | Adoption of the legislative proposal | Q4 2017 |
| Important items from work programmes/financing decisions/operational programmes | | |

| Output | Indicator | Target |
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| Other important outputs | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
| Setting up the Business Registers Interconnection in line with Directive 2012/17/EU | Business Registers interconnection goes live | June 2017 |
| Negotiations on the amendment of the Shareholders' Rights Directive | Adoption of the amendment by the co-legislators | Q1-2 2017 |
| Negotiations on the amendments to the Capital Requirements Regulation and Directive, rules on remuneration and governance in financial institutions | Progress in the negotiations at the EP and in the Council | Q4 2017 |
| Follow-up on public consultation and on the work of the High-level group on long-term and sustainable investment in view of contribution to the Strategy on sustainable finance | Contribution to the Strategy on sustainable finance as regards governance issues | Q3-4 2017 |
| Relevant general objective(s): An Area of Justice and Fundamental Rights Based on Mutual Trust | | |
| Specific objective: More effective national justice systems | | Related to spending programme(s) Justice |
| Main outputs in 2017: | | |
| All new initiatives and REFIT initiatives from the Commission Work Programme | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
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| Important items from work programmes/financing decisions/operational programmes | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
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| Other important outputs | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
| The 2017 EU Justice Scoreboard. Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Central Bank, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions. | On-time adoption (1 st quarter each year) of the annual EU Justice Scoreboard | Adoption of the EU Justice Scoreboard: March/April 2017 |
| Justice reforms Country Reports | On-time delivery to SG of | - Q1 |

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| and Country Recommendation Semester) | Specific (European | JUST contributions on - country reports(Q1) - country specific recommendations in the context of the European Semester | - Q2 |
| Relevant general objective(s): An Area of Justice and Fundamental Rights Based on Mutual Trust | | | |
| Specific objective: Better EU financial markets with a sound framework to combat money laundering and terrorist financing | | | Related to spending programme(s) Justice |
| Main outputs in 2017: | | | |
| All new initiatives and REFIT initiatives from the Commission Work Programme | | | |
| Important items from work programmes/financing decisions/operational programmes | | | |
| Other important outputs | | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target | |
| Adoption of the proposal for a directive COM(2016)450 | Adoption of the Directive by co-legislators | June 2017 | |
| Adoption of a report on Supranational Risk Assessment according to Article 7 of Directive 2015/849 | Adoption of a report | June 2017 | |
| Adoption of Regulatory Technical Standards (RTS) on additional measures in non-equivalent third countries and on the appointment of central contact points | Adoption of Regulatory Technical Standards | June 2017 | |
| Reinforcing the cooperation between FIUs through appropriate measures | Decision on appropriate measures | June 2017 | |
| Delegated acts on high risk countries | Adoption of an amendment to the delegated acts | March, July, November 2017 Last quarter of 2017 | |
| Adopt a report on sanctions and monitoring and compliance measures based on article 22 of The Funds Transfer Regulation (Regulation 2016/847) | Adoption of a report | Last quarter of 2017 | |
| Adopt an Implementing Decision regarding article 355 TFEU | Adoption of an implementing decision | | |

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| countries based on article 22 of The Funds Transfer Regulation (Regulation 2016/847) | | |
| Relevant general objective(s): An Area of Justice and Fundamental Rights Based on Mutual Trust | | |
| Specific objective: Enhanced rights deriving from the citizenship of the Union | | Related to spending programme(s) Rights, Equality and Citizenship |
| Main outputs in 2017: | | |
| All new initiatives and REFIT initiatives from the Commission Work Programme | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
| Contribution to the White Paper setting out a vision for the future of the European Union (March 2017) | Contribution | Q1 2017 |
| Enhancing the security features of ID cards and residence cards Planning 2016/JUST/050 | Impact assessment study | Q3 2017 |
| Emergency travel documents for unrepresented citizens Planning 2017/JUST/017 | Assessment of modernisation of rules | Q4 2017 |
| Important items from work programmes/financing decisions/operational programmes | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
| Awareness raising campaign on EU citizenship rights | Launch of the campaign | Q4 2017 |
| Support to stakeholders: Foster the successful inclusion and participation of mobile citizens in the host EU country's civic and political life | Number of grant agreements signed in 2017 | 4 |
| Network of academics on Union Citizenship | Signature of the contract | 2017 |
| Other important outputs | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
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| Relevant general objective(s): An Area of Justice and Fundamental Rights Based on Mutual Trust | | |
| Specific objective: Enhanced rights enshrined in the | | Related to |

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| EU Charter of Fundamental Rights, including the rights of the child | | spending programme(s) Rights, Equality and Citizenship Justice |
| Main outputs in 2017: | | |
| All new initiatives and REFIT initiatives from the Commission Work Programme | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
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| Important items from work programmes/financing decisions/operational programmes | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
| Support to stakeholders: Support integrated and multidisciplinary child-centred approaches to child victims of violence, as well as capacity building on rights of the child and child protection for professionals in asylum and migration | Number of action and operating grant agreements signed in 2017 | 22 |
| Support to stakeholders: promoting the awareness of the EU Charter on Fundamental Rights among judges and practitioners | Number of action grant agreements signed in 2017 | 6 |
| Other important outputs | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
| Whistleblowing initiative (assess the scope for horizontal or further sectorial action at EU level to protect whistle-blowers who expose illegal conduct) Planning PLAN/2016/271 | Publication of the impact assessment study | Q2 2017 |
| Proposals on the acceptance of third states' accession to the 1980 Convention on International Child Abduction | Adoption of 4 proposals by the Commission | Q3-Q4 2017 |
| Mainstreaming EU Charter of Fundamental Rights | Input in EC impact assessments and legislative proposals/explanations in explanatory memo | Continuous |
| Report on the Application of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights | Annual report | May 2017 |
| Recommendations on the protection of children in migration/list of actions | Outcome of the 2016 Forum on the Rights of the Child | Q2 2017 |
| Adoption by Council and EP of | Progress made in Council | 2017 |

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| COM decision on the Multiannual Framework of the Fundamental Rights Agency | WG/EP to express consent | |
| External evaluation of the FRA | Annual Report | 2017 |
| Relevant general objective(s): An Area of Justice and Fundamental Rights Based on Mutual Trust | | |
| Specific objective: A respected Rule of Law in the EU with any systemic threats addressed | | Related to spending programme(s) Justice |
| Main outputs in 2017: | | |
| All new initiatives and REFIT initiatives from the Commission Work Programme | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
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| Important items from work programmes/financing decisions/operational programmes | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
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| Other important outputs | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
| Addressing systemic threats to the Rule of Law in a Member State | Application of the Rule of Law Framework | n/a (crisis mechanism) |
| Follow-up to EP and Council initiatives on rule of law (EP resolution on a new mechanism and Council Rule of Law dialogue) | Inclusion of rule of law aspects in COM policy (mainstreaming) | Q1 |
| Relevant general objective(s): An Area of Justice and Fundamental Rights Based on Mutual Trust | | |
| Specific objective: A more developed European area of Justice with more judicial cooperation in civil and criminal matters | | Related to spending programme(s) Justice |
| Main outputs in 2017: | | |
| All new initiatives and REFIT initiatives from the Commission Work Programme | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
| Proposal on mutual recognition of freezing and confiscation orders Planning 2016/JUST/024 | Timely start of negotiations | Beginning of 2017 |
| Important items from work programmes/financing decisions/operational programmes | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
| Annual report on European judicial training | Cumulative number of legal professionals receiving training on EU law or law of another Member State since 2011 | 490.000 |
| Support to stakeholders: support | Number of action and | 25 |

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| for national and transnational projects to foster judicial cooperation in civil matters | operating grants agreements signed in 2017 | |
| Support to stakeholders: support for national and transnational projects and European networks to foster judicial cooperation in criminal matters, procedural rights and victims' rights | Number of action and operating grants agreements signed in 2017 | 24 |
| Support to stakeholders: support for national or transnational e-Justice projects | Number of grants agreements signed in 2017 | 12 |
| Support to stakeholders: support for transnational projects on judicial training covering civil law, criminal law or fundamental rights | Number of grants agreements signed in 2017 | 19 |
| Support to stakeholders: use of the European e-Justice Portal | Annual growth in the use of the European e-Justice Portal | Annual growth rate at 20% since 2016 |
| Operating grant to the EJTN | Number of judges and prosecutors trained in 2017 by EJTN | 3700 |

Other important outputs

| Output | Indicator | Target |
|---|--|--|
| Initiative on access to electronic evidence Planning 2017/JUST+/018 | Timely delivery in line with Council conclusions of June 2016 | June 2017 |
| Revision of the Brussels IIa Regulation | Progress in the negotiations at the EP and the Council | General approach Q4 2017 |
| Public Documents Regulation | Publication of the multilingual forms | Q42017-1Q 2018 |
| Regulations on matrimonial property regimes and property consequences of registered partnerships | Set up the committee Adoption of implementing act | Q2-3/2017 |
| World-wide recognition and enforcement of judgments and the enforcement of mediated settlement agreements | Progress in the negotiations towards finalisation Participation in the Special Commission in The Hague and Uncitral Working Group III | Q4/2017 (finalisation 2018) February 2017 |
| Communication on a new strategy for European judicial training | Outcome of conference on European judicial training in Q3 2017 | Q4/2017 |

Relevant general objective(s): An Area of Justice

| and Fundamental Rights Based on Mutual Trust | | |
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| Specific objective: A well-functioning European Judicial Network in civil and commercial matters with adequate resources | | Related to spending programme(s) Justice |
| Main outputs in 2017: | | |
| All new initiatives and REFIT initiatives from the Commission Work Programme | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
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| Important items from work programmes/financing decisions/operational programmes | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
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| Other important outputs | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
| Improving the operation of the network | Adoption by the Commission of the implementing regulation for the IMI pilot Data gathering mechanism | March 2017 2017 |
| Relevant general objective(s): An Area of Justice and Fundamental Rights Based on Mutual Trust | | |
| Specific objective: Less discrimination on the grounds of sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation and more Roma integration | | Related to spending programme(s) Rights, Equality, Citizenship |
| Main outputs in 2017: | | |
| All new initiatives and REFIT initiatives from the Commission Work Programme | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
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| Important items from work programmes/financing decisions/operational programmes | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
| Support to stakeholders: activities tackling non-discrimination of groups at risk including Roma and LGBTI people, as well as supporting National Roma platforms. | Number of action and operating grant agreements signed in 2017 | 32 |

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| Other important outputs | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
| Setting up of National Roma Platform where action by all key stakeholders are co-ordinated | Number of National Roma Platforms set up | 20 |
| Mutual learning seminars between MS (under the HL Group on Non-Discrimination, Diversity and Equality) | Number of seminars | 2 |
| Equal Treatment Directive (Proposal for a Directive on implementing the principle of equal treatment between persons irrespective of religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation) | Progress made towards adoption (Increased support by MS at the Council. Currently 26 MS) | 28 |
| Training of legal practitioners in sex equality and anti-discrimination law | Number of practitioners trained | 600 |
| Assess the prohibition of discrimination on the grounds of sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation throughout the European Union | Number of: - country fiche on MS legislation - Thematic reports | 39 |
| Two seminars on mutual learning organised with the MS | Number of MS attending | 14 |
| Relevant general objective(s): An Area of Justice and Fundamental Rights Based on Mutual Trust | | |
| Specific objective: Less racism, xenophobia, homophobia, antisemitism, anti-Muslim hatred and other related forms of intolerance | | Related to spending programme(s) Rights, Equality and Citizenship |
| Main outputs in 2017: | | |
| All new initiatives and REFIT initiatives from the Commission Work Programme | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
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| Important items from work programmes/financing decisions/operational programmes | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
| Support to stakeholders: Support dialogue and exchange of best | Number of action and operating grant | 21 |

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| practice in fostering tolerance and mutual respect, as well as support to Member States' authorities in the identification and exchange of good practices to ensure correct and full implementation of the EU Framework Decision on combatting racism and xenophobia by means of criminal law | agreements signed in 2017 | |
| Other important outputs | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
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| Relevant general objective(s): An Area of Justice and Fundamental Rights Based on Mutual Trust | | |
| Specific objective: More diversity in the workplace | | Related to spending programme(s) Rights, Equality and Citizenship |
| Main outputs in 2017: | | |
| All new initiatives and REFIT initiatives from the Commission Work Programme | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
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| Important items from work programmes/financing decisions/operational programmes | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
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| Other important outputs | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
| Engage further Member States and businesses in diversity management through their adhesion to national Diversity Charters | Total number of Diversity charters signed | 19 |
| Annual Diversity Charters' Forum | Number of Diversity charters attending the Forum | 20 |
| Relevant general objective(s): An Area of Justice and Fundamental Rights Based on Mutual Trust | | |
| Specific objective: More support for EU Member States in key LGBTI-related areas and improved social acceptance | | Related to spending programme(s) Rights, Equality and Citizenship |
| Main outputs in 2017: | | |
| All new initiatives and REFIT initiatives from the Commission Work Programme | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |

| Important items from work programmes/financing decisions/operational programmes | | |
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| Output | Indicator | Target |
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| Other important outputs | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
| Awareness raising activities in the MS | Number of MS involved | 14 |
| Relevant general objective(s): An Area of Justice and Fundamental Rights Based on Mutual Trust | | |
| Specific objective: No gender-based violence and more victim support | | Related to spending programme(s) Rights, Equality and Citizenship |
| Main outputs in 2017: | | |
| All new initiatives and REFIT initiatives from the Commission Work Programme | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
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| Important items from work programmes/financing decisions/operational programmes | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
| Awareness-raising of stakeholders through 2017 focused actions | Contract for the EU-level umbrella campaign carried out | Q4 2017 |
| In the context of the 2017 focused actions, support and engage Member States and NGOs | Number of action and operating grant agreements signed in 2017 | 23 |
| Awareness-raising of stakeholders | EU Presidency conference on gender-based violence | February 2017 |
| Other important outputs | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
| EU accession to the Istanbul Convention | Progress in the negotiations with Council on the signing and conclusion decisions and in Parliament regarding its consent to the conclusion | Political agreement on the signing decision in Q1 2017 Favourable EP resolution |
| Annual report on equality between women and men | Publication by the Commission | Q1 2017 |
| Exchanges of good practice on combatting violence against | Number of exchanges | 2 exchanges |

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| women | | |
| Relevant general objective(s): An Area of Justice and Fundamental Rights Based on Mutual Trust | | |
| Specific objective: More safeguarding of the fundamental right to data protection in our external relations | | Related to spending programme(s) Rights, Equality and Citizenship |
| Main outputs in 2017: | | |
| All new initiatives and REFIT initiatives from the Commission Work Programme | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
| Strategy on exchanging and protecting personal data in a globalised world (Communication) Planning PLAN/2016/271 | Adoption by the College | January 2017 |
| | | |
| Important items from work programmes/financing decisions/operational programmes | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
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| Other important outputs | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
| Possible adoption of adequacy decisions | Adoption by the College | Q4 2017 |
| Conclusion of Council of Europe Convention 108 (as modified) | Adoption of the text of the modernised convention by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe and opening for signature | Q2 2017 |
| Relevant general objective(s): An Area of Justice and Fundamental Rights Based on Mutual Trust | | |
| Specific objective: An adequate protection of EU citizens' personal data by US government and agencies | | Related to spending programme(s) Rights, Equality and Citizenship |
| Main outputs in 2017: | | |
| All new initiatives and REFIT initiatives from the Commission Work Programme | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
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| Important items from work programmes/financing decisions/operational programmes | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
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| Other important outputs | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |

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| First annual review of the privacy shield | Meeting with US authorities | September 2017 |
| Relevant general objective(s): An Area of Justice and Fundamental Rights Based on Mutual Trust | | |
| Specific objective: Common data protection rules within the European Union in place | | Related to spending programme(s) Rights, Equality and Citizenship |
| Main outputs in 2017: | | |
| All new initiatives and REFIT initiatives from the Commission Work Programme | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
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| Important items from work programmes/financing decisions/operational programmes | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
| Support to stakeholders: training activities on the data protection reform | Number of grant agreements signed in 2017 | 8 |
| Other important outputs | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
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| Relevant general objective(s): An Area of Justice and Fundamental Rights Based on Mutual Trust | | |
| Specific objective: A reduced gender pay gap | | Related to spending programme(s) Rights, Equality and Citizenship |
| Main outputs in 2017: | | |
| All new initiatives and REFIT initiatives from the Commission Work Programme | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
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| Important items from work programmes/financing decisions/operational programmes | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
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| Other important outputs | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
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| European Equal Pay Day 2017 | Press releases and media coverage | Q4 2017 |
| Contributions to the Commission's Annual Growth Survey (AGS), country reports and definition of country-specific recommendations (CSRs) | Contributions sent to JUST/C1 and EMPL in time for AGS and CSRs | Q1 2017 (for CSRs) Q3 2017 (for AGS and county report) |

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| Relevant general objective(s): An Area of Justice and Fundamental Rights Based on Mutual Trust | | |
| Specific objective: More equality between women and men in decision-making | | Related to spending programme(s) Rights , Equality and Citizenship |
| Main outputs in 2017: | | |
| All new initiatives and REFIT initiatives from the Commission Work Programme | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
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| Important items from work programmes/financing decisions/operational programmes | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
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| Other important outputs | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
| Directive on improving the gender balance on boards of listed companies | Adoption by the co-legislators | 2017 |
| Regular update of the Commission database on women and men in decision-making | online publication periodical | throughout |
| Relevant general objective(s): An Area of Justice and Fundamental Rights Based on Mutual Trust | | |
| Specific objective: Increased availability of childcare services | | Related to spending programme(s) Rights, Equality and Citizenship |
| Main outputs in 2017: | | |
| All new initiatives and REFIT initiatives from the Commission Work Programme | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
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| Important items from work programmes/financing decisions/operational programmes | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
| | | |
| Other important outputs | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
| Annual report on equality between women and men | Publication by the Commission | Q1 2017 |
| Contributions to the Commission's Annual Growth Survey (AGS), country reports and definition of country-specific recommendations | Contributions sent to JUST/C1 and EMPL in time for AGS and CSRs | Q1 2017 (for CSRs) Q3 2017 (for AGS) |

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| (CSRs) | | and country reports) |
| Relevant general objective(s): An Area of Justice and Fundamental Rights Based on Mutual Trust | | |
| Specific objective: Improved work-life balance for working parents and caregivers | | Related to spending programme(s) Rights, Equality, Citizenship |
| Main outputs in 2017: | | |
| All new initiatives and REFIT initiatives from the Commission Work Programme | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
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| Important items from work programmes/financing decisions/operational programmes | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
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| Other important outputs | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
| Initiative to address the challenges of work-life balance faced by working families (package of legislative and non-legislative measures) Planning 2015/JUST/012 | Adoption by the Commission | Q1 2017 |
| | | |
| Relevant general objective(s): A Union of Democratic Change | | |
| Specific objective: Enhanced EU citizens' democratic participation, including through cross-border information and facilitated participation in the EP and local elections, and increased legitimacy and accountability of EU decision-making, including by building on the concept of "lead candidates" | | Related to spending programme(s) Rights, Equality and Citizenship |
| Main outputs in 2017: | | |
| All new initiatives and REFIT initiatives from the Commission Work Programme | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
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| Important items from work programmes/financing decisions/operational programmes | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
| Follow up of the EP pilot project on e-voting | Number of grant agreements signed in 2017 | 3 |

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| Activities on democratic participation ahead of the 2019 EP elections (follow up of the 2015 elections report) | Grant agreements | 4 |
| Other important outputs | | |
| Output | Indicator | Target |
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| Awareness raising campaign on EU electoral rights | Launch of the campaign | Q 4 2017 |