

EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA)
**Fourth meeting of the Specialised Committee on Law Enforcement and
Judicial Cooperation (LEJC)**

London & virtual, 13 December 2024 | 14:00 to 16:00 GMT

Minutes of the Meeting

Review of TCA implementation and operation

The Parties reaffirmed their shared assessment that the agreement continues to operate effectively with significant mutual operational benefit. They agreed to hold technical discussions with experts to address issues around adherence to timelines set in the agreement, to streamline the operational usage of police information shared via Europol and with Member States, and to continue providing information on necessary software updates for ECRIS/UKCRIS. They also agreed to pursue technical discussions on an improvement of the standard forms for Mutual Legal Assistance and Asset Freezing and Confiscation.

Mutual legal assistance - mutual assistance on traffic offences (Article 640(7) TCA)

The Parties acknowledged the provisions in Article 640(7) of the TCA, on mutual assistance on traffic offences, and agreed to hold technical discussions.

Anti-Money Laundering - beneficial ownership registers (Article 654 TCA)

The EU informed the UK that the AML Package adopted earlier in 2024 harmonises the procedures to access the beneficial ownership registers for members of the general public demonstrating a legitimate interest. The UK noted the EU's update and reaffirmed the UK commitment to its domestic publicly accessible beneficial ownership register for companies. Both the UK and EU committed to continue promoting beneficial ownership transparency globally.

Exchanges of DNA, fingerprints and vehicle registration data under Title II of Part Three of the TCA

The UK confirmed that it had completed all DNA connections with EU Member States. The UK also noted that it had made 22 fingerprint connections and was ready to finalise the remaining 5.

The Parties also discussed the status of work to implement the vehicle registration data (VRD) component of Title II of Part Three of the TCA. The UK confirmed that it had notified the EU of its readiness to operate the VRD capability and expected to host an EU evaluation visit early in 2025.

The EU informed the UK that it would assess if there was a need to modify the TCA as a result of the EU's internal Prüm II legislation and would notify the UK accordingly

in line with the procedure under Art. 541 TCA. The UK proposed a technical discussion to better understand the potential implementation requirements.

Conclusions and forward look to future meeting agendas

The Parties agreed that a fifth meeting of the Specialised Committee should take place at an appropriate point in 2025 where it will further review the implementation and proper functioning of the Law Enforcement and Judicial Co-operation Part of the TCA.

Annex 1: Participants of the fourth meeting of the Specialised Committee on Law Enforcement and Judicial Cooperation (LEJC)

EU delegation (34)

- EU Co-Chairs of the Specialised Committee on LEJC
- European Commission Officials
- Delegation of the European Union to the UK Officials
- Representatives of EU Member States

UK delegation (27)

- UK Co-Chair of the Specialised Committee on LEJC
- UK Government Officials from Home Office, Ministry of Justice, Cabinet Office, HM Treasury and UK Mission to the European Union
- Scottish Government EU Office Official
- Northern Ireland Department of Justice Official