

**Work in the field of programmes receiving European and international funding
- Superior Council of Magistracy-**

The IT projects

The IT mechanisms and applications were developed within the projects and through a unitary vision of their implementation, in an interconnected manner. Therefore a substantial reform of the judicial system was carried out and tools for improving performance and efficiency have been made available to the system. For example, within the project "Optimisation of management in the judicial system. The Courts Component" was developed the Integrated Information System for Court Management (OptiMapp), designed to support the administrative and managerial activities of the courts, within the project "Optimisation of management in the judicial system. The prosecutors' office component" was developed the IT application for calculating the complexity and workload of prosecutors/prosecutors' offices.

Within the project "CPCI – Increasing institutional performance and quality by improving the evaluation and psychological assistance system in the judicial system", an integrated IT system for evaluation and psychological assistance in the judicial system was developed. These tools as well as the Mindapp IT application will be used for the application of the regular psychological assessment procedure for magistrates, but also for the establishment of a consistent practice of continuous psychological support and assistance to judges and prosecutors.

The digitization component developed within the aforementioned projects also materialized in the form of starting a process of restructuring the management of new IT applications, including by configuring, at the level of the Superior Council of Magistracy, an identity server, which allows the use by a person in the judicial system of a single set of credentials for all applications. Last but not least, we also mention the CSMapp application, developed to manage and improve the internal activity of the institution, within the project 'Strengthening the organizational and administrative capacity of the Superior Council of Magistracy' (code MySMIS 135225/SIPOCA 760).

Furthermore, under the project 'Professional Training and Capacity Building at the level of the judiciary', financed under the Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2014-2021, steps were taken to strengthen juvenile justice by organising training sessions, completing the process of equipping the 51 hearing rooms for minors at national level and disseminating practical guides in the field of minor hearing techniques. These efforts will be taken forward through the actions included in the project supported by the Swiss-Romanian Cooperation Programme (second contribution), which will start in the course of 2025 and which proposes a systematic approach, with a focus on providing the necessary framework to protect children during judicial proceedings, especially as regards sexual

violence and child pornography, to reduce the risk of re-victimisation and systemic trauma.

Project ‘Professional Training and Capacity Building at the level of the judiciary’, financed under the financial mechanism Norwegian 2014-2021 (MFN 2014-2021)

The predefined project took place in the period 28.02.2019-30.4.2024, a broad approach devoted to consolidating the Romanian judicial system, improving its effectiveness and developing the concept of European legal culture.

In 2024, 12 training sessions were organised in the following areas: 3 public procurement sessions, one session on tax procedure, one session in the field of judicial cooperation in civil matters, a session in the field of judicial cooperation in civil and criminal matters, 4 sessions in the field of the C.E.D.O. case-law and fundamental rights and 2 sessions in the field of the enforcement of judgments in criminal matters. During the reporting period, 2 conferences on access to justice of the Roma ethnicity population and vulnerable groups were also organised, as well as the conference closing the predefined project.

The project was restructured by the introduction of a new activity, namely the organisation of 8 awareness-raising sessions on the importance of using hearing chambers developed at court level, which took place between February and April 2024, a new minor hearing chamber having also been developed at court level, thus reaching a total of 51 minor hearing chambers at national level.

Finally, the guide on good practices in the field of hearing techniques for minors and the guide to good practice in the field of hearing techniques for minors and the guide on good practices in the field of enforcement of criminal decisions have been printed in paper format and disseminated to courts, focusing on specific aspects of the Roma ethnicity population, also available electronically in the dedicated section of the Council website.

In the context of output 4, the IT endowment of the Superior Council of Magistracy and the National School of Clerks, as well as frigatechnical equipment and office equipment for the Superior Council of Magistracy, was also completed in 2024.

Over five years, the predefined project helped to improve the continuous training of professionals in the judicial system, focusing on European legal concepts in the current areas with a view to increasing the efficiency and quality of the decision-making process at system level, promoting concrete measures to create asbestos justice for minors, both by improving the practical skills of professionals within but also outside the judicial system in the field of techniques for hearing minors and by putting in place the necessary infrastructure at court level to conduct such procedures, as well as improving access to justice, in particular for vulnerable groups.

National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRR)

The Superior Council of Magistracy continued in 2024 to implement the project ‘Improving digitalisation at the level of the Superior Council of Magistracy’, financed by

the Recovery and Resilience Facility, under strand 7 ‘Digital Transformation’, Investment 4 – ‘Digitalisation of the judiciary’ of the National Recovery and Resilience Plan, aimed at strengthening the institutional capacity of the Superior Council of Magistracy to ensure the proper execution of tasks, providing digital resources, creating the necessary prices to improve electronic governance and accelerate the digital transformation in the judicial sector.

In 2024, in view of the objective of the project and the result sought – strengthening institutional capacity at the level of the Superior Council of Magistracy through an increase in IT infrastructure and IT security, and taking into account the savings in the implementation process, an updated needs analysis was carried out, with new equipment that will directly contribute to the updating and smooth functioning of the IT infrastructure in the Council. Accordingly, the implementation period of the project was extended until August 2025.

Project ‘Development of the Case Management System – Ecris V’ (My SMIS 142520)

The Superior Council of Magistracy, the Bucharest Court of Appeal and the Prosecutor’s Office attached to the High Court of Cassation and Justice (Public Prosecutor’s Office) participate, as partners, in *the project “Development of the Case Management System – ECRIS V”*, implemented by the Ministry of Justice under the Operational Programme Administrative Capacity.

The overall objective of the project is to make the justice system more efficient by providing it with a modern IT system adapted to current needs, which supports its specific work.

The project is currently being implemented during the development and testing phase of the IT system functionalities.

As regards the projects financed under the Operational Programme Administrative Capacity 2014-2020, namely: **“TAEJ-Transparency, Accessibility and Legal Education by Improving Public Communication in the Judicial System”** (Code MySMIS 118765/SIPOCA 454), **“CPCI – Increasing institutional performance and quality by improving the evaluation and psychological assistance system in the judicial system”** (Code MySMIS 135456/SIPOCA 762), **“The Optimisation of management at the level of the judiciary. Prosecutors’ Offices component”** (MySMIS 133850/SIPOCA 761), **“Strengthening the organizational and administrative capacity of the Superior Council of Magistracy”** (MySMIS 135225/SIPOCA 760) and **“Optimisation of management in the judicial system”. The Courts Component”** (SIPOCA 129513/MySMIS 751), completed in 2023, they are in the sustainability phase, in 2024, from the activity of exploiting the results obtained in those projects, in accordance with the financing agreements concluded with the donor A.M.P.O.C.A.

By way of example, that the deliverables obtained in the context of the project **“Optimisation of management in the judicial system”. The Courts Component”**, namely

the integrated standard management manual for courts, as well as the application of Registrature administrative electronica Optimapp in the production phase, are useful tools for optimising management activity at court level.

Similarly, following the implementation of the same project, the courts of appeal and the courts within their jurisdiction benefit from a new category of support staff, namely judicial assistants, the institution being enshrined in law, following the successful completion of the pilot exercise, by Law No 393/13.12.2023 on the status of judicial assistant.

The deliverables obtained in the context of the project **‘CPCI – Increasing institutional performance and quality by improving the evaluation and psychological assistance system in the judicial system’**, namely the psychological assistance and evaluation tools and the Mindapp IT application that is also at the production stage, will be used for the purposes of applying the procedure for the periodic psychological assessment of judges and prosecutors, governed by Article 222 of Law No 303/2022 on the status of judges and prosecutors, but also in establishing a consistent practice of providing permanent psychological support and assistance to judges and prosecutors in the judicial system.

The digitalisation strand developed in the context of the projects implemented under the Operational Programme Administrative Capacity has also materialised in the form of the start of a comprehensive process of restructuring the management of new IT applications, including the configuration at the level of the Superior Council of Magistracy of an identity server allowing a person of the judiciary to use a single set of credentials for all applications.

In the context of the project **‘Strengthening the organizational and administrative capacity of the Superior Council of Magistracy’** (MySMIS 135225/SIPOCA 760), the integrated IT system was developed for the management of the activities of the technical apparatus of the Superior Council of Magistracy and relations with other institutions/organisations within and outside the judiciary.

When the IT applications developed in those projects were put in place, new exploitation opportunities were identified, thanks to interconnection with IT applications under development, such as ECRIS V, and exploitation opportunities in relation to digitisation processes following other initiatives, such as those materialized in the implementation of the registratura.rejust.ro portal or rejust.ro.

In practice, the IT systems developed during the implementation period of the P.O.C.A. programme are part of a digitisation effort, the pace and consistency of which gradually increased in 2024.