European Parliament
2024-2029

TEXTS ADOPTED

P10_TA(2026)0062

Appointment of the European Chief Prosecutor

European Parliament decision of 10 March 2026 on the appointment of the European Chief Prosecutor of the European Public Prosecutor's Office (N10-0079/2025 – C10-0349/2025 – 2025/0803(NLE))

(Approval)

The European Parliament,

– having regard to Council Regulation (EU) 2017/1939 of 12 October 2017 implementing enhanced cooperation on the establishment of the European Public Prosecutor's Office ('the EPPO')[1], and in particular Article 14 thereof,

– having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 86 thereof,

– having regard to the proposal of a shortlist of candidates drawn up by the selection panel, in accordance with Article 14(3) of Regulation (EU) 2017/1939,

– having regard to the Council letter of 14 January 2026, confirming that a common accord regarding the appointment of the European Chief Prosecutor was reached,

– having regard to the decision of the Conference of Presidents of 22 October 2025 regarding Rules on the appointment of representatives of the European Parliament or other persons to the management boards or other positions of agencies and bodies,

– having regard to its Rules of Procedure,

– having regard to the report of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (A10-0027/2026),

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1 OJ L 283, 31.10.2017, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2017/1939/oj.

A. whereas Article 14(2) of Regulation (EU) 2017/1939 provides for the selection of the European Chief Prosecutor among candidates who are active members of the prosecution service or judiciary of the Member States, or active European Prosecutors; whose independence is beyond doubt; who possess the necessary qualifications and have relevant practical experience of national legal systems, financial investigations and of international judicial cooperation in criminal matters, or have served as European Prosecutors; and who have sufficient managerial experience and qualifications for the position;

B. whereas the selection panel submitted, in accordance with Article 14(3) of Regulation (EU) 2017/1939, to the European Parliament and to the Council the shortlist of four qualified candidates for the position of European Chief Prosecutor and provided the reasons for selecting the shortlisted candidates, as well as their Curricula Vitae and motivation letters;

C. whereas on 3 December 2025, its Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs Committee, in association with its Budgetary Control Committee, organised a public hearing of the four candidates for the position of European Chief Prosecutor of the EPPO, at which the candidates made opening statements and answered questions put to them by members of the Committees;

D. whereas on 3 December 2025, after having received the opinion of its Budgetary Control Committee, its Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs Committee voted in support of Mr Andrés Ritter as the Parliament’s preferred candidate for the position of the European Chief Prosecutor of the EPPO;

E. whereas on 3 December 2025, the Committee of Permanent Representatives of the Governments of the Member States (Coreper) established a position in support of the appointment of Mr. Andrés Ritter as European Chief Prosecutor of the EPPO;

F. whereas both its Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs Committee and Coreper supported the same candidate as their preferred candidate, and therefore a common accord on the appointment of Mr. Andrés Ritter as European Chief Prosecutor of the EPPO was reached;

1. Approves the appointment of Andrés Ritter as the European Chief Prosecutor of the European Public Prosecutor's Office;

2. Instructs its President to sign the annexed decision with the President of the Council and arrange for its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*;

3. Instructs its President to forward this decision, including its annex, to the Council and, for information, to the Commission.

ANNEX

DECISION (EU) 2026/...
OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL

of ...

appointing the European Chief Prosecutor
of the European Public Prosecutor's Office

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EU) 2017/1939 of 12 October 2017 implementing enhanced cooperation on the establishment of the European Public Prosecutor's Office ('the EPPO')[1], and in particular Article 14 thereof,

Having regard to Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/1696 of 13 July 2018 on the operating rules of the selection panel provided for in Article 14(3) of Regulation (EU) 2017/1939 implementing enhanced cooperation on the establishment of the European Public Prosecutor's Office ('the EPPO')[2],

Having regard to Council Decision (EU) 2018/1275 of 18 September 2018 appointing the members of the selection panel provided for in Article 14(3) of Regulation (EU) 2017/1939[3],

Having regard to the proposal of a shortlist of candidates drawn up by the selection panel on 8 October 2025, in accordance with Implementing

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1 OJ L 283, 31.10.2017, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2017/1939/oj.
2 OJ L 282, 12.11.2018, p. 8, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec_impl/2018/1696/oj.
3 OJ L 238, 21.9.2018, p. 92, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec_impl/2018/1275/oj.

Decision (EU) 2018/1696, with a view to the appointment of the European Chief Prosecutor of the European Public Prosecutor’s Office,

Whereas:

(1) The European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO) was established by Regulation (EU) 2017/1939.

(2) The European Chief Prosecutor is the Head of the EPPO and organises the work of the EPPO, directs its activities, and takes decisions in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2017/1939 and the internal rules of procedure of the EPPO. The College of the EPPO consists of the European Chief Prosecutor and one European Prosecutor per Member State.

(3) By means of Decision (EU) 2019/1798 of the European Parliament and of the Council[4] Ms Laura Codruța KÖVESI was appointed as the first European Chief Prosecutor of the EPPO. Her mandate will expire on 31 October 2026.

(4) It is therefore necessary to appoint, by common accord of the European Parliament and the Council, a new European Chief Prosecutor of the EPPO.

(5) An open call for candidates for the position of European Chief Prosecutor of the EPPO as a temporary agent at grade AD 15 was published in the *Official Journal of the European Union* on 28 April 2025[5].

(6) Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/1696 lays down the operating rules of the selection panel provided for in Article 14(3) of Regulation (EU) 2017/1939 (the 'operating rules of the selection panel').

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4 Decision (EU) 2019/1798 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2019 appointing the European Chief Prosecutor of the European Public Prosecutor's Office (OJ L 274, 28.10.2019, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2019/1798/oj).

5 OJ C, C/2025/2468, 28.4.2025, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/C/2025/2468/oj.

(7) In accordance with the first paragraph of Rule VII.1 of the operating rules of the selection panel, a shortlist of four candidates has been drawn up by the selection panel, which provided reasons for selecting the candidates on the shortlist. In accordance with the second paragraph of Rule VII.1 of the operating rules of the selection panel, the selection panel ranked the candidates according to their qualifications and experience. Such a ranking indicates the selection panel's order of preference but is not binding on the European Parliament and the Council. On 8 October 2025, the selection panel submitted the shortlist and provided the reasons for selecting the shortlisted candidates, as well as their Curricula Vitae and motivation letters, to the European Parliament and to the Council.

(8) On 3 December 2025, the Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs Committee of the European Parliament, after organising a public hearing of the four shortlisted candidates in association with, and after receiving the opinion of, the Budgetary Control Committee of the European Parliament, proceeded to a vote in support of Mr Andrés RITTER as the Parliament's preferred candidate for the position of the European Chief Prosecutor of the EPPO.

(9) On 3 December 2025, the position of the Council was established in support of the appointment of Mr. Andrés RITTER as European Chief Prosecutor of the EPPO.

(10) The European Chief Prosecutor of the EPPO is to be appointed by common accord between the European Parliament and the Council for a non-renewable term of seven years from 1 November 2026.

(11) After assessing the candidates, the European Parliament and the Council reached a common accord on the appointment of Mr. Andrés RITTER as European Chief Prosecutor of the EPPO.

(12) In appointing Mr Andrés RITTER, both institutions assessed the respective merits of the candidates, taking into account the statement of reasons provided by the selection panel, as well as their Curricula Vitae and motivation letters,

HAVE ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

Mr Andrés RITTER is hereby appointed European Chief Prosecutor of the EPPO as a temporary agent at grade AD 15 for a non-renewable period of seven years from 1 November 2026.

Article 2

This Decision shall enter into force on the third day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

Done at …, ….

For the European Parliament	*For the Council*
The President	*The President*