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1st RECOVER workshop – Press release

“The concept of proceedings in criminal matters (art. 1 EU Regulation no. 1805/2018) and related safeguards” (31.01.2023)

On Tuesday 31st of January 2023 the 1st workshop of the project RECOVER - *Mutual recognition of freezing and confiscation orders between efficiency and the rule of law* was held gathering the several members of the consortium and some external experts by the online platform MsTeams.

It was focused on the explanation of the subject matter of the Regulation n. 1805/2018 on mutual recognition of freezing and confiscation orders, and in particular on the interpretation of the concept of “proceeding in criminal matters” mentioned in Article 1 EU Reg. and the related safeguards.

The meeting was organized in three panels, in which some presentations given by qualified rapporteurs as well as moments of debate among the representatives of the partners took place.

In particular Professor Maugeri, the scientific Coordinator of the project (UNICT), gave an introductory speech about the concept of "proceeding in criminal matter" in the EU Reg.; Mr. Antonio Balsamo, Judge and President of the Tribunal of Palermo, discussed above the safeguards in the proceeding in criminal matter; Prof. Paulo Pinto de Albuquerque, Professor of Criminal law at Catholic University of Lisbon and former judge of the ECourtHR, explained the European Court of Human Right's case law on the concept of proceeding in criminal matter and the proceedings for the application of extended and non-conviction based confiscation; Mr. Filippo Spezia, Head of the Italian Desk of Eurojust, gave a speech on the interpretation of proceeding in criminal matter in the first praxis.

Besides these presentations, the core moment of the project was the debate among the partners, who had the chance to discuss on the concept of "proceeding in criminal matter", its scope of application in European countries as well as the guarantees that this type of proceedings must offer.

The 2nd workshop will be held on the harmonisation of the confiscation models in April at the University of Catania. We will give you news on this event soon...then stay tuned!