Ms Michèle Coninsx, President of Eurojust



Michèle Coninsx has been President of Eurojust since May 2012. She was reappointed President of Eurojust by the Council of Ministers of the European Union following her reelection by the College of Eurojust in May 2015.

In addition, Ms Coninsx is National Member for Belgium at Eurojust and Chair of Eurojust's Counter-Terrorism Team.

Eurojust is the European body that stimulates and improves the coordination of investigations and prosecutions related to organised crime and terrorism between the competent authorities of the Member States of the European Union.

Ms Coninsx is a Federal Prosecutor (*magistrat fédéral*) who holds the noble title of Baroness (Royal Decree of 8 July 2013). She also holds the title of Fellow of Law and Criminology at the University of Brussels (Vrije Universiteit Brussel; 2014-2017), Visiting Professor in the School of Law at Queen Mary University of London (2015-2018) and in the College of Europe (2016-2017).

Ms Coninsx has a Master's Degree in Law, a Master's Degree in Criminology, and is a specialist in Air Law and Aviation Security (UK – USA).

While with the Brussels Public Prosecutor's Office, Ms Coninsx gained extensive practical experience in the prosecution and trial of major criminal cases, including terrorism (GIA Islamic Armed Group), organised crime (Cali Drugs Cartel) and murder (serial killer András Pándy).

In addition, she served for nine years as an expert in aviation security for the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), where she was in charge of anti-terrorism training related to aircraft sabotage and hijacking.

From 1997 until 2002, Ms Coninsx was one of three Belgian National Prosecutors in charge of the coordination of judicial and police efforts in combating terrorism and organised crime throughout the whole of Belgium. In this position, she played a key role in improving evidence gathering, the arrest and conviction of Animal Liberation Front (ALF) activists, streamlining and optimising the coordination of the fight against large-scale petrol fraud and VAT carousel fraud, and the structuring of the analysis of terrorist threats (GIA-threat '99, EURO 2000).

From January 2001, Ms Coninsx was asked to represent Belgium in Pro-Eurojust, where she assumed the Presidency in the second half of 2001. She was Vice-President of Eurojust from December 2007 until April 2012.

Ms Coninsx can be reached at the Office of the President (<u>president@eurojust.europa.eu</u>), www.eurojust.europa.eu