



Co-funded by  
the European Union

## 2<sup>nd</sup> RECOVER workshop – Press release

### **“National confiscation models (covered by the EU Regulation no. 1805/2018) and proposal of harmonization: a new directive” (13-14.04.2023)**

On Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> and Friday 14<sup>th</sup> of April 2023 the 2<sup>nd</sup> workshop of the project RECOVER - *Mutual recognition of freezing and confiscation orders between efficiency and the rule of law* was held gathering most of the members of the consortium in Catania, with the participation of the members of the advisory and monitoring boards and of other experts by the online platform MsTeams.

The two-day workshop was focused on the analysis of the confiscation models of the European countries involved in the project and on the identification of prospects for the harmonization of their legal systems.

During the first day – after the welcome address of Prof. Salvatore Zappalà, Director of the Department of Law of the University of Catania – Prof. Anna Maria Maugeri, scientific Coordinator of RECOVER, gave an introductory speech that offered an overview of the Dir. no. 42/2014/EU. Then, she gave the floor to the partners for their reports about the characteristics and the criticisms of their national legislations on confiscation: Ms. Vanya Ilieva, Prosecutor in the Supreme Cassation Prosecutor’s Office, spoke for Bulgaria; Mr. Arnaud de Blesson, on behalf of the Ministry of Justice, for France; Prof. Martin Heger, Professor of Criminal Law and Procedural Law at the Humboldt University, for Germany; Ms. Janne Lise de Boer and Mr. Robert vd Ende, International Legal Advisors, for Netherlands.

During the second day, the other national confiscation models were presented: the Lithuanian system was explained by Ms. Jūratė Radišauskienė, Prosecutor of Criminal Prosecution Department; the Polish one by Mr. Marcin Warchold, Deputy Minister of Justice; the Portuguese one by Mr. João Conde Correia, General Prosecutor; the Romanian one by Ms. Alis Scutaru, Asset Tracing and Management Inspector at ANABI; the Spanish one by Mr. Francisco Jiménez Villarejo Fernández, Supreme Court Prosecutor; the Italian one by Prof. Anna Maria Maugeri, who focused on the jurisprudence of the Italian Constitutional Court and of the ECHR regarding general and special forms of confiscation, and by Prof. Giovanni Grasso, Professor of Criminal Law at the University of Catania, who underlined the various issues of the Italian type of confiscation that is a preventive measure. Then, Prof. Ernesto Savona, Professor of Criminology at the Catholic University of the Sacred Heart, talked about the lack of data relating to the mutual recognition proceedings. In conclusion, Ms. Anna Sakellarakis, Ph.D. candidate in Criminal Law at the Humboldt University, discussed the proposal of a new directive on asset recovery and confiscation.

After each of these presentations there was a lively debate among the partners of the consortium, which contributed to identifying the most relevant aspects of the different national legal systems, meditating on the scope of application of the Reg. no. 1805/2018/EU and reflecting upon the reform proposals for the harmonization of the legislations of the EU member States.

In the next weeks, we will continue to update you on the upcoming activities of the project and on the results that the consortium will achieve... Stay tuned!