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**NOTE**

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From: Presidency  
To: Delegations

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No. prev. doc.: 14560/24

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Subject: Videoconferencing in the judicial context

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**REDACTED DOCUMENT ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC (19.09.2025). ONLY MARGINAL PERSONAL DATA HAVE BEEN REDACTED.**

**I. CONTEXT**

1. The Working Party on e-Justice started working on videoconferencing in a judicial context under the Belgian and Hungarian Presidencies.
2. The delegations will find in this document the list of documents and actions that have already been taken within the Working Party on e-Justice and a series of questions whose responses would allow to have the full picture of the situation across the Member States regarding the use of videoconference in the judicial context.

**II. PREVIOUS ACTIONS AND DOCUMENTS**

3. A questionnaire on the use of videoconferencing in the context of judicial proceedings was circulated by document ST 10600/24 of 31 May 2024.

4. The compilation of replies were published in WK 12889/2/2024 of 19 February 2025. Some delegations still have not replied to this questionnaire and were invited to provide the Presidency with their responses to the questions.
5. Further to the document ST 14560/24 of 18 October 2024, the Working Party on e-Justice agreed, on 9 December 2024, that two priority topics would be addressed by the WP on e-Justice:
  - interoperability of videoconferencing systems, mainly in the context of criminal matters, and
  - verification of the identity of the person heard, mainly in the context of civil and commercial matters.
6. During the e-Justice Working party meeting of 24 January 2025, the Polish Presidency made a presentation on the mapping of videoconferencing solutions and announced its intention to ask a series of clarifying questions. This presentation can be found in WK 942/2025.
7. At the same e-Justice Working Party meeting of 24 January 2025, a discussion was held on the state of play and challenges concerning the use of videoconferencing in justice, on the basis of document WK 731/2025. In this document, the Member States were asked if they:
  - agree to establish a list of the most common videoconferencing tools used in the field of Justice in order to provide interoperability profiles for these tools;
  - confirm that the three mentioned use cases for remotely identifying participants in a remote hearing (i.e., visual recognition, digital identification and trusted third party) cover all national practices.
8. Only part of the delegations confirmed that the three mentioned use cases for the purpose of verifying the identity of participants in a remote hearing covered their national practice
9. Further to remarks expressed by delegation during the e-Justice Working Party meeting of 24 January 2025, a new document was issued (WK 2154/2025), adding a fourth use case for remote identification of participant in a video-hearing, i.e. self-identification.

### III. CONCLUSION

10. Consequently, the Presidency invites the delegations to:
- confirm whether the four use cases for remote identification of participant in a video-hearing, listed in WK 2154/25, cover all instances in the Member States,
  - reply to the clarifying questions on the use of VTC in a judicial context that can be found in the annex to this note.
11. The responses can be communicated to the Presidency and the General Secretariat **by 20 March 2025** at the following addresses: [jai.e-law.e-justice@consilium.europa.eu](mailto:jai.e-law.e-justice@consilium.europa.eu) ; DELETED and DELETED .
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Clarifying questions on the use of VTC in a judicial context

**Question 1 on statistics**

What is the proportion, in percentage, of judicial hearing held by videoconference in your country :

- i. in a domestic context, in civil and commercial matters,
- ii. in a domestic context, in criminal justice proceedings ?
- iii. in a cross-border context in civil and commercial matters?
- iv. in a cross border context, in criminal proceedings ?

In the absence of detailed statistical data, please indicate the estimated value.

**Question 2 on interoperability of systems in the Member States:**

- What are the technical standards for cross-border videoconferencing applied in your country?
- Taking into consideration the *Guide on videoconferencing in cross-border proceedings* issued by the Council (<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/30606/qc3012963enc.pdf>) and principally its Annex III, what standard should be commonly used for such a cross-border connection?

**Question 3 on the methods of proof of identity used by individual Member States**

- What methods of proof of identity are used in your country (including legal provisions if any), among the four methods identified in document WK 2154/25?
- Indicate if different methods are used in criminal proceedings and civil and commercial matters.