

Name of the event	Mobility to EU Agencies and the European Commission
Institution, which organised the event	Europol, Eurojust, European Commission
Country of the organiser	Portugal
Year of the event	2026
Date of the event (from-to)	02 March – 06 March
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This Erasmus+ mobility was highly valuable from an academic, professional and institutional perspective. It provided direct contact with key European institutions in the fields of security and justice, namely the European Commission, Europol and Eurojust, and offered a clearer understanding of the European Union's institutional framework in these areas.

The mobility was directly connected to the completion of our final academic research projects, combining institutional visits with interviews conducted with experts and institutional representatives. This made it possible to collect first-hand information, strengthen the fieldwork component of our research, and connect academic knowledge with practical institutional experience.





The research topics developed during the mobility were the following:

Diana Santos – European Cooperation in Combating Organised Crime: The Challenges of Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling for European Agencies;

José Coelho – The Role of Eurojust in the Establishment of Joint Investigation Teams, with a case study on drug trafficking crimes;

André Paredes – Institutional Cooperation in Combating Organised Crime, with a focus on vehicle trafficking and vehicle identification number (VIN) tampering.

The event was particularly beneficial because it allowed us to deepen our understanding of the role of European agencies, the challenges they face in supporting Member States, and the importance of coordination, information-sharing, and police and judicial cooperation in addressing transnational organised crime.

From an institutional point of view, this mobility was especially relevant because it represented, for the first time, an opportunity for GNR officer cadets to visit European agencies in this context. It therefore contributed both to the training of the participants and to the strengthening of the external projection of the Guarda Nacional Republicana and the Military Academy in a European setting.

Particular emphasis should be placed on the added value of the mobility to The Hague, as this city hosts two of the main European agencies in the field of police and judicial cooperation — Europol and Eurojust — both of which are highly relevant to the mission of the Guarda Nacional Republicana. This made it possible to visit both agencies within a single mobility period, thus maximising the academic and institutional value of the visit.

Several important lessons were drawn from this experience. It confirmed the need to prepare future officers with a solid understanding of the European institutional framework, the ability to work in multinational environments, and the skills required to address increasingly Europeanised security and justice issues. It also demonstrated the value of direct contact with experts as a complement to academic training.

In terms of good practices, the mobility highlighted the importance of careful prior preparation, including the definition of clear objectives, the identification of relevant institutions, the preparation of interview guides, and prior research on the competences of the organisations visited. It also proved useful to establish contacts in advance with liaison officers and national representatives posted to the agencies.

Regarding future perspectives, it is recommended that GNR officer cadets continue to benefit from Erasmus+ mobilities of this kind, particularly in connection with their final research projects. It would also be beneficial to provide GNR cadets, within their police training or Internal Security Studies courses, with opportunities to undertake similar study visits or internships.

For future mobilities, it is further recommended to include visits to the Koninklijke Marechaussee and the Dutch Police, in order to complement the European agency dimension with direct knowledge of national policing models and operational cooperation. In addition, efforts should be made to include a visit to Frontex in future initiatives. In the present case, only Europol and Eurojust could be visited, as both are located in The Hague. Nevertheless, given the growing importance of Frontex in integrated border management and operational support to Member States, its inclusion in future mobilities would be of clear academic and institutional value.



Overall, this was a highly positive and enriching experience, combining academic research, institutional exposure and international engagement, while making a meaningful contribution to the training of future officers of the Guardia Nacional Republicana.





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