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### Facilities in EU countries

Many courts in Member States are now equipped with videoconferencing facilities in the courtroom or in special hearing rooms for witnesses and experts.

To make it easier for judges, prosecutors and court staff to find the practical information they need to conduct a hearing by videoconference in cross-border proceedings, the Member States' Justice Ministries have provided details on the location and type of videoconferencing facilities available in courts. Please select the relevant country's flag to obtain detailed national information. No details are given of equipment installed in ministries or prisons.

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#### Information on national facilities - Belgium

[VC\\_equipment\\_ver\\_1\\_be\\_en.pdf](#) (14 Kb)[en](#)

Last update: 19/10/2015

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#### Information on national facilities - Bulgaria

The information will be updated once the ongoing project for the supply of equipment has been completed.

Last update: 09/03/2020

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#### Information on national facilities - Czech Republic

[VC\\_equipment\\_ver\\_2\\_CZ\\_en](#) (367 Kb)[en](#)

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#### Information on national facilities - Germany

[Videoconferencing equipment in Germany](#) (428 KB)[de](#)

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#### Information on national facilities - Ireland

In criminal cases, requests for judicial cooperation in hearing a person present in Ireland by videoconference must be addressed to:

The Central Authority for Mutual Assistance, Department of Justice and Equality and Law Reform, Block C, Floor 3, Harcourt Street, Dublin 2. Telephone: + 353 1 4086143 or 4086101 or 4086108

[vc\\_equipment\\_ver\\_1\\_ie\\_en](#) (29 Kb)[en](#)

Last update: 26/03/2018

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#### Information on national facilities - Greece

[Videoconferencing equipment in Greece](#) (8 Kb)[en](#)

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#### Information on national facilities - Spain

[Videoconferencing equipment in Spain](#) (931 KB)[es](#)

Last update: 02/04/2018

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#### Information on national facilities - Cyprus

[Videoconferencing equipment in Cyprus](#) (8 Kb)[en](#)

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#### Information on national facilities - Latvia

[Videoconferencing equipment in Latvia](#) (58 KB)[en](#)

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#### Information on national facilities - Lithuania

There are currently no video conference facilities in Lithuanian courts.

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#### Information on national facilities - Luxembourg

[Videoconferencing equipment in Luxembourg](#) (117 KB)[en](#)

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#### Information on national facilities - Hungary

The Hungarian courts do not have fixed videoconferencing facilities; however, they rent such equipment if necessary.

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#### Information on national facilities - Malta

[Videoconferencing equipment in Malta](#) (2324 KB)[en](#)

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#### Information on national facilities - Austria

An overview of videoconferencing equipment in the Austrian courts and public prosecutor's offices, together with their contact details, can be downloaded

[here](#) (840 Kb)[en](#).

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#### Information on national facilities - Portugal

The attached document contains technical information about the videoconferencing equipment installed in the different courts.

[Videoconferencing systems for courts in Portugal](#) (119 Kb)[en](#)

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#### Information on national facilities - Romania

[Videoconferencing equipment in Romania](#) (68 Kb)[en](#)

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Please note that the following languages have already been translated.

#### Information on national facilities - Slovakia

Videoconferencing equipment in Slovakia (9 Kb) [en](#)

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#### Information on national facilities - Sweden

Videokonferensanläggningar i Sveriges domstolar (362 Kb) [sv](#)

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#### Information on national facilities - United Kingdom

The administration of videoconferencing facilities in the UK is decentralised, so there is no national point of contact for reserving equipment. However, cross-border videoconferencing requests must be addressed to the following organisations before any contact with the court concerned.

In **England and Wales** the [UK Central Authority \(UKCA\)](#) based at the Home Office is the central authority for receiving videoconferencing hearing requests in criminal matters. Information on how to make a request for videoconferencing facilities in the UK can be found under the heading 'Hearings via Video or Telephone Conference' on the Home Office's [guidelines](#) on requests for mutual legal assistance in criminal matters.

If a request is accepted, the UKCA nominates a relevant court (based on location of the witness). In civil matters, the Senior Master of the Queen's Bench Division and Queen's Remembrancer is the judge in the Royal Courts of Justice who receives all cross-border videoconferencing requests before referring the matter to the relevant court.

More information on Taking of Evidence can be found here in the e-Justice portal under European Judicial Atlas in Civil matters. There are 1,800 video links operational in the courts across England and Wales, mostly in the criminal courts but there is also some availability in the civil courts. 500 of these are witness rooms suitable for giving evidence from.

In **Scotland** videoconferencing requests in criminal matters must be addressed to the International Cooperation Unit of the Crown Office in Edinburgh. In civil matters, requests should be addressed to the Scottish Government, Civil Law and Legal System Division, St Andrew's House (GW15), Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1 3DG (e-mail: [bill.galbraith@gov.scot](mailto:bill.galbraith@gov.scot)).

In **Northern Ireland** requests in criminal matters must be addressed to the same central authority as for England and Wales (see above). In civil matters, requests must be addressed to the High Court Civil and Criminal Division in Belfast.

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