



REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA  
MINISTRY OF JUSTICE  
AND DIGITAL AFFAIRS

Ms Edit Törzs  
European Forum for Restorative Justice  
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Hooverplein 10  
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Our Ref: 10.06.2025

No 9-2/5016-1

**Letter of Support for the European Forum for Restorative Justice (EFRJ)  
Application for Framework Partnership Agreement (JUST-2025-JCOO-JACC-OG-FPA)**

Dear Ms. Törzs,

We are pleased to provide this letter of support on behalf of the Estonian Ministry of Justice and Digital Affairs in support of the **European Forum for Restorative Justice (EFRJ)** and their application for a Framework Partnership Agreement (JUST-2025-JCOO-JACC-OG-FPA) with the European Commission, as well as for their annual Operating Grants.

We strongly support this grant application and the EFRJ's mission to facilitate **effective and non-discriminatory access to justice for all**, by promoting the rights of victims of crime and the procedural rights of suspects and accused persons through the **development of high-quality restorative justice services across the EU**.

As a member of the **European Restorative Justice Policy Network (ERJPN)**, established by the EFRJ in 2018, our Ministry as well as our partners in Estonia have benefitted from being part of a collaborative space that brings together representatives of Ministries and other national authorities responsible for restorative justice and related matters. The ERJPN plays a crucial role in fostering **cross-country collaboration, mutual learning, and knowledge sharing** on EU and international legislation, policies, and good practices.

The EFRJ has supported our work through **providing guidance, policy input, and sharing research findings** that informed our national strategies and legislative developments on restorative justice. Thanks to the unwavering support and inspiration from EFRJ, we have a National Concept on Restorative Justice approved by the National Prevention Council in 2022. In addition, policymakers and practitioners alike have participated in invaluable **training courses, seminars, webinars and international conferences** organized by EFRJ.

Through **practice guides, standards and quality review tools** for restorative justice practice developed by EFRJ, we have been able to boost the development work in the Estonian criminal justice system. Also, we have been able to raise awareness for restorative justice thanks to the supporting **awareness-raising efforts and public engagement** around restorative justice and its benefits for victims, offenders, and communities, and giving visibility to our innovative practices through the EFRJ newsletter, webinars and international events. The annual Restorative Justice week – celebrated in Estonia as the annual **Restorative Justice Month** – has given us the invaluable opportunity to engage in advocacy and training activities.

Las but not least, facilitating our **participation in European networks**, such as the European Restorative Justice Policy Network, and in **international projects**, such as the Restorative Justice – Strategies for Change project, have allowed us to exchange knowledge and best practices with peers across Europe and beyond.

We consider the EFRJ as a key European network dedicated to the advancement of restorative justice, and an **essential partner in improving justice systems** that are more inclusive, participatory, and responsive to the needs of victims and offenders alike.

**We fully support their proposal for a JUST Operating Grant Framework Partnership Agreement and are confident that this support will enable the EFRJ to continue delivering impactful and sustainable contributions to the European justice landscape.**

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Laidi Surva', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Laidi Surva  
Deputy Secretary General on Criminal Policy