<u>en</u>

Press release | 05.03.2019

EU Justice Programme final trilogue

Quote from Heidi Hautala MEP

Today, final trilogue negotiations between the European Parliament, Commission and Council were concluded on the **EU Justice Programme** for the years 2021-2027, which includes greater support for citizens, civil society and legal experts. The programme will contribute to the development of justice in the EU based on the rule of law, on mutual recognition and mutual trust between judicial professionals. The final deal will now be confirmed by the European Parliament plenary session in April.

Heidi Hautala, Greens/EFA rapporteur on the EU Justice Programme, comments:

"The EU Justice Programme will support judiciaries and access to justice for all across the member states, paying particular attention to people who are disadvantaged or often discriminated against. Thanks to the efforts of the Greens/EFA group the programme will ensure that civil society are able to access funds to support non-discriminatory access to justice and that gender mainstreaming is at the heart of this initiative.

"The fact that the final deal on the programme was agreed upon in just over two weeks shows that there is broad political support for improving the justice system across the EU. The European project is built on a foundation of values, including the rule of law, but unfortunately those values are increasingly under threat. That's why we need a strong and independent judiciary that works for all across the EU and the Justice Programme will help deliver that."

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