COURT OF JUSTICE
OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

Solemn undertaking ceremony at the Court of Justice of the European Union

Press release No 174/26

Luxembourg, 26 November 2026

Solemn undertaking before the Court of Justice of the European Union by the new European Chief Prosecutor and six European Prosecutors

By decision of 25 March 2026, the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union appointed Mr Andrés Ritter (Germany) as the new European Chief Prosecutor for a non-renewable term of seven years, with effect from 1 November 2026. He succeeds Ms Laura Codruţa Kövesi, the first European Chief Prosecutor, who had given the solemn undertaking before the Court of Justice of the European Union on 28 September 2020, during the formal sitting organised to mark the inauguration of the European Public Prosecutor's Office. [1]

By decisions of 11 February and 29 June 2026, the Council appointed Ms Jennifer Vanderputten (Belgium), Mr Pavel Zeman (Czech Republic), Mr Philippe Jaeglé (France) and Mr Omar Caruana (Malta) as European Prosecutors at the European Public Prosecutor's Office for a non-renewable term of six years, with effect from 29 July 2026.

By decision of 28 September 2026, the Council appointed Ms Tanja Frank Eler (Slovenia) and Mr Christopher Wenzl (Germany) as European Prosecutors at the European Public Prosecutor's Office for a non-renewable term of six years, with effect from 7 October and 1 November 2026 respectively.

The Court of Justice of the European Union held a solemn undertaking ceremony at 11:00 today, during which the new European Chief Prosecutor and the six new European Prosecutors undertook to be completely independent in carrying out their responsibilities, in the interest of the European Union as a whole, neither to seek nor take instructions from any person or entity external to the European Public Prosecutor's Office, and to comply with the duty of confidentiality as regards all information held by the European Public Prosecutor's Office. Mr Koen Lenaerts, President of the Court of Justice of the European Union, and Mr Andrés Ritter made speeches on that occasion.

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Images of the formal sitting are available on 'Curia Web TV'.

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[1] Press release No 118/20.