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# Increasing Capacity of the Baltic States to Stimulate the Exchange of Forensic Data via Prüm

## BALTFORDEX

### ISFP-2017-AG-FORENSIC



State Police of Latvia  
Forensic Service Department  
DNA Analysis Unit  
**I.Puncule**



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# Project Objective



The general objective of the project is to stimulate the exchange of forensic data (DNA profiles, fingerprints) via Prüm and to improve the quality of data exchanged by increasing the capacity of forensic science institutes in the Baltic States (Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia).

Specific objectives include:

- dissemination of best practices and innovative approaches to forensic data exchange;
- improvement of forensic expert knowledge and professional skills;
- improvement of the quality of DNA and fingerprint evidence collected at the crime scene;
- increased sustainable co-operation between the Baltic States in the field of forensic data exchange;
- development of a new system of DNA database digitalization and integration, with the potential of transferability to other Member States.

[www.ekspertize.vp.gov.lv](http://www.ekspertize.vp.gov.lv)



# Timeline and Funding



The Project is scheduled to begin on January 1, 2019, with a total duration of 18 months.

The Project is composed of 3 Work Packages:

- Work Package 1: Management and Coordination of the Action (duration: 18 months)  
Funding: 20158 (11144 LV, 9014 LT)
- Work Package 2: Increasing the capacity of DNA profiles in cross-border exchange (duration: from month 2 - month 18)  
Funding: 337 208 (322480 LV, 14728 LT)
- Work Package 3: Improvement of DNA profile and fingerprint data quality to stimulate cross-border forensic data exchange (duration: from month 3 - 18)  
Funding: 151501 (72622 LV, 78879 LT)

Total project funding: 598059 (475278 LV, 122781 LT)

**Total budget: 639923.13 (508547.46 LV, 131375.67 LT)**



# Expected Outcomes



1. Uptake of best practices in the DNA database digitalization process, technical solution, tools and challenges from the Swedish National Forensic Centre
2. Familiarization with solutions the concordance of next generation sequencing (NGS) (multiple parallel sequencing - MPS) and conventional capillary electrophoresis (CE) results (prior to local implementation)
3. Development of a technical solution for the digitalization of the national DNA database of the Latvian State Police Forensic Service Department, with a potential for transferability to other Member States (spec., LT, EE)
4. Development of a joint Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) to improve the quality of DNA and fingerprint evidence collected at the crime scene (LV, LT)
5. Development of a mechanism for prompt, mutual notification in the automated exchange of fingerprint data to resolve communications issues (Prüm)
6. Purchase of hardware and software equipment, as well as train-the-trainer workshops on image enhancing software, for the improvement of fingerprint data (Prüm exchange)





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**Thank you!**

