



European Network of Councils
for the Judiciary (ENCJ)

Réseau européen des Conseils
de la Justice (RECJ)

Dear judge,

I write to you as president of the European Network of Councils for the Judiciary (ENCJ). Your Judiciary is either a member or an observer of the network. I would like to ask for just a few minutes of your valuable time.

The ENCJ has been developing indicators to evaluate the actual independence and accountability of the judiciaries across Europe. Most of the ENCJ's members and observers are active participants in this project. The ENCJ thinks it is very important that the independence of the judiciary is guaranteed in both Member States and candidate Member States of the EU. The ENCJ also cooperates in this field with the European Commission.

Early 2015 the ENCJ asked judges across Europe to participate in an online survey and answer a short questionnaire about their experience of independence as a judge. Nearly 6.000 judges participated ([see ENCJ 2015 report](#)). Now we would like to repeat this exercise. We have a broad participation of ENCJ Members and Observers in the survey which covers most of the EU and beyond. We hope that we will have an even higher reply rate this year's survey.

Please, [click here](#) to start. The link will lead you to the questionnaire, on the website of the ENCJ. Your anonymity is strictly guaranteed. The survey will be open from 1st November – 16th December 2016 for all professional judges.

The outcome of the questionnaire will be used as the foundation for further debate about the independence of judges across Europe. The results will be published on the ENCJ's website.

I would be extremely grateful if you would be prepared to spare just a few minutes to reply to this important survey. Many thanks in advance for your valuable cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

Nuria Diaz Abad

President of the European Network of Councils for the Judiciary
Member of the Consejo General del Poder Judicial of Spain