

RESEARCH PROJECT "PATHS TOWARDS PENAL HARMONIZATION"
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Schedule: next meeting, 13-14 April 2007, in Naples

Brief presentation:

The objective of the research project is primarily to *describe*, as representatively as possible, the harmonization phenomenon in terms of the diversity and heterogeneity of practices. We have therefore situated the research within the European, and more generally, the global or quasi-global spheres, and to conduct analysis from both general (the role of comparative law in international criminal prosecutions) and specific perspectives (corruption, cybercrime, international terrorism and fraud against EU financial interests).

Within this framework, we analyze the *evolutionary factors* in this phenomenon (launch, acceleration, slowing, blockage or bifurcation) in relation with political, economic, social and technological determinants. Then we examine the *interaction of processes*, especially normative elaboration (unification, harmonization, cooperation), application (hard law, hybrid law, soft law) and review (supranational, national, transnational). Finally, we identify the actors involved (public, private economic and civil).

The second step is to *evaluate* harmonization practice in terms of empirical, formal and axiological validity.

For more information in French, see:

http://www.college-de-france.fr/default/EN/all/int_dro/p1048771805681.htm