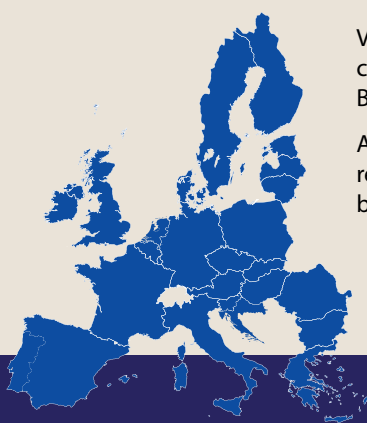


# Fundamental rights in criminal proceedings

## Trust in cross-border justice



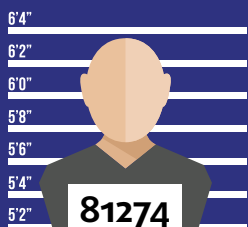
Various EU criminal justice laws apply to cross-border transfers, pre- and post-trial. But Member States rarely use them.

A well-functioning EU justice area requires trust and mutual recognition between Member States' judicial systems.

This protects the rights and safety of victims, society, suspects, and accused and sentenced people.

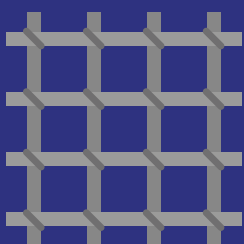


## Ways to improve



Detention should only be used as a last resort, and alternatives should be used more, in line with human rights standards.

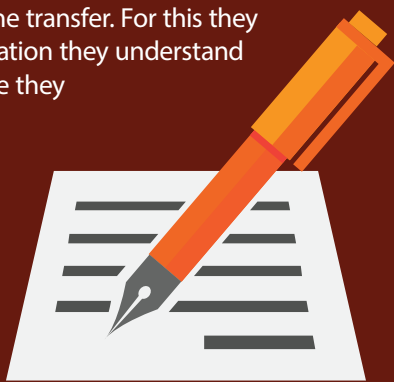
They also help reintegration into society and are often cheaper



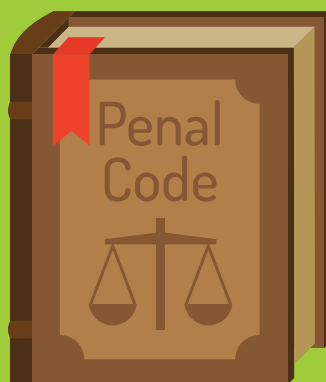
Collecting better information about why the laws are rarely used. For example, 'foreigners' should not be detained pre-trial simply because they are perceived to skip the country more easily.



Involving those being transferred in decisions to ensure they fully understand the consequences and can consent to the transfer. For this they need information they understand in a language they understand.



Avoiding sending people back for expediency. This can hamper social rehabilitation when people are sent back to their 'home country' where conditions may be significantly worse, for example.



Respecting victims' rights by keeping them up to date about transfers that concern them in line with EU Victims' Rights Directive.



Consider the specific needs of people with disabilities or children during criminal proceedings.

This is in line with European and international human rights standards.

