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# Global Response Against Child Exploitation



**Instrument:** Research and Innovation Action proposal

**Thematic Priority:** FCT-02-2019

# GRACE subcommittees and Advisory Board's plan and establishment

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	VICOM, NICC, PJ, EUC	VICOM, NICC, PJ, EUC

## DOCUMENT CONTROL

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0.2	12/11/2020	Sara Falconi (Europol EC3)	New contributions in all sections
0.3	02/02/2021	Juan Arraiza (VICOM)	Review and some contributions proposed
0.4	04/02/2021	Sara Falconi, Cathal Delaney	Final revision
1.0	05/02/2021	Cathal Delaney	Final version

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# 1. Introduction

## 1.1. Overview

The DoA describes this deliverable as:

*D1.5 - Description of structure, members, and governance policies for the GRACE sub-committees and Advisory Boards (month 9).*

This document defines the mission, structure, responsibilities, and decision-making process of the GRACE External Advisory Boards (EAB).

The Terms of Reference (ToR) are an agreement between the project partners and they set out the guidelines for the functioning, monitoring and reporting of the EAB.

The task 1.5<sup>1</sup> will focus on the establishment of the GRACE sub-committees and the advisory board, and defining its structure, members and governance policies in accordance with the overall GRACE governance structure. The sub-committees and the advisory board shall cover different technical, scientific, ethical, and legal aspects in accordance with the project needs. Drawing upon its unique position within the international law enforcement community, EUROPOL will facilitate the stakeholder engagement and collaboration with the different stakeholder groups of pertinence for the project. This will enable the efficient coordination and alignment of the project related activities, as well as avoiding duplication internally within GRACE and externally with other initiatives and ongoing efforts within the wider cyber security community.

The notice for meetings, agenda reviews and timelines is reported in the art. 6.5, further, the contents of the interactions with the Innovation Manager are reported in the art.6.1 of the Consortium Agreement.

The agreed ToR shall be shared with the project partners involved as well as relevant internal stakeholders as appropriate.

## 1.2. Relation to other deliverables

This deliverable is related to the following other GRACE deliverables:

### Receives inputs from:

Deliv. #	Deliverable title	How the two deliverables are related
D1.3	T1.3 Development of ethical and legal guidelines and data management and protection plan	It will generate inputs to allow EAB to perform their mission

*Table 1 – Relation to other deliverables – receives inputs from*

<sup>1</sup> Which is the task dedicated to the management of external boards.

Provides outputs to:

Deliv. #	Deliverable title	How the two deliverables are related
D1.6	T1.5 IPR and Innovation Management	The EAB will cooperate with the Innovation Manager to find the best way to exploit GRACE project results.
D8.4	T8.4 Evaluation & Assessment	The EAB will support the WP8 implementation in the evaluation and assessment of the pilots. The project's Advisory Board will also develop a high-level strategic evaluation of the overall performance of GRACE tools based on their participation during the implementation of GRACE case studies.
Deliverable in WP2	DESIGN – User Requirements, Standardisation, Technical and Architecture Specification.	The EAB will participate in the definition of the technical and user requirements and the architecture.
Deliverables in WP9	WP9. SELP – Social, Ethical, Legal and Data Protection Framework	The EAB will provide the appropriate inputs related to the specific tasks in the WP.
Deliberables in WP8	WP8. DEPLOY - Pilots Definition, Preparation, Planning, Execution and Evaluation	The EAB will provide the appropriate inputs related to the specific tasks in the WP to evaluate the pilots. As described in the following paragraphs of this deliverable they will be tasked accordingly.
Deliverables in WP10	WP10. IMPACT – Exploitation, Dissemination, Communication, Training, and Policy Making Recommendations	The EAB participates in project dissemination and communication tasks, evaluates and provides the objective point of view in terms of policy and best practices.

Table 2 – Relation to other deliverables – provides outputs to

### 1.3. Structure of the deliverable

This document includes the following sections:

- Section 2: it contains the description of the context in which the External Advisory Board will operate and for which topic.
- Section 3: It contains the description of the mission of EAB.
- Section 4: It contains the description on how the various entities can become members of EAB and under which conditions.
- Section 5: It contains the definition of the structure of the EAB.

- Section 6: It provides indication of the communication channels.
- Section 7: It contains the concluding remarks of the deliverable.

In the annex are added few more information useful to perform the work and improve the communication channels.

## 2. Context of the External Advisory Board in the GRACE project

The use of the internet to distribute Child Sexual Exploitation Material (CSEM) is an abhorrent crime. Referrals from Online Service Providers (OSPs) are key to fighting Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE). OSPs, detection technologies and users reporting suspicious material are improving. However, this leads to an increase in the sheer volume of referrals coupled with the increase in the distribution of CSEM online that is pushing Member States' Law Enforcement Agencies (MS LEAs) to their limits and affecting their capacity to prevent harm to infants and children, rescue those in immediate danger, and investigate and prosecute perpetrators. The NCMEC process has improved LEA capability. But, a typical CSE case contains 1-3 TBs of video, 1–10 million images. Limited human resources, manual analysis and the 4,000% increase in referrals since 2014 obligates a new approach. GRACE will apply proven techniques in Machine Learning (ML) to the referral and analysis process while embracing the very technical, ethical and legal challenges unique to fighting CSE. GRACE will leverage resources already in place at EUROPOL and its 9 MS LEAs and attempt to provide results

early, frequently and flexibly, prioritising easy wins in the research plan (e.g. deduplication). By applying Federated Learning approach to the challenge of optimising analysis and information flow, GRACE will enable cooperation between LEAs in improving their own capabilities and harness experiential knowledge. The results of GRACE will be handed back to EUROPOL and MS LEAs for unrestricted use in their missions, helping to ensure their future technological autonomy.

Driven by the need to combat CSEM, the **EAB** fulfils the role of a multi-stakeholder platform that allows for the exchange of information, best practices and expert knowledge related to the project. The EAB aims to engage stakeholders from across the globe with a focus on EU Member States including law enforcement agencies, Europol, the European Commission, industry and academia by establishing a **pan-European network of experts**. The EAB is committed to promoting and improve communication and synergies between the various stakeholders as well as between members of specific classes of stakeholders.

In line with the above, the EAB's activities will encompass the following areas:

1. Communication, dissemination, and capacity building.
2. Contribution to the definition and evaluation of project results, deliverables and pilot executions.
3. Trainings and certifications.

Provide evaluation and assessment in the Task 8.4 of the project proposal in developing a high-level strategic evaluation of the overall performance of GRACE tools based on their

participation during the implementation of GRACE case studies. This also linked to the KPI established in the Task 7.5 (the contents of the task is reported in the annex).

Without limiting the foregoing, the EAB observes that:

- The project results and deliverables have different levels of sensitivity (see annex).
- There is a wide range of knowledge areas ranging from IT, engineering and computer science to Legal, ethics and management.
- The agreement on the ownership of the results and on the modality of exploitation of the results is reported in the Consortium Agreement.
- Some project results, once generated, may be fixed, while others may be continually evolving, also in consideration of the Consortium Agreement provisions.
- The types of interaction with the SAG members may vary in consideration of the contents and the security evaluation process reported in the project proposal.
- Communication and Dissemination activities within the AG should be synchronized with the general GRACE project plan for optimal utilization of project resources.

### **3. Mission of the GRACE EAB**

GRACE aims to deliver the next generation of Big-Data and AI powered tools to European law enforcement agencies (LEAs) to combat CSEM alongside innovative strategic frameworks to tackle the growth of CSE facilitated by technological advancements.

The mission of the GRACE EAB is to contribute to the above by addressing four key areas:

1. Provide a validated product to directly address the backlog in referrals from OSPs to MS LEAs that will continue to scale as the number of referrals grow.
2. Contribute to an EU-wide federated learning infrastructure to train neural network models beyond the state of the art for content classification, maintaining the privacy and security of data across EU MS.
3. Share expert knowledge regarding the delivery of a semi-automated CSEM content analysis and prioritisation mechanism that provides LEAs with actionable intelligence to protect victims and apprehend offenders.
4. Provide advice on LEAs' ability to track short and long-term existing and emerging trends in the production, dissemination and consumption of online CSEM to inform stakeholders and policy actors.

GRACE will introduce a new dynamic approach, based on data gathering, classification and forensic data gathering, handling, processing, analysing, classifying and learning, as well as speedy exchange of information, supported by advanced machine learning and AI-powered algorithms, to allow MS

LEAs to close the technological gap with the offenders and to significantly improve their efficiency in addressing CSE cases. In particular, GRACE aims to efficiently and effectively tackle the inflow of CSEM referrals from OSPs, providing Big Data solutions for data ETL (Extract, Transform, Load), while also aiming to standardize content management across MS LEAs.

## 4. Membership of the GRACE EAB

Legal entities and individual persons may become members of the EAB, provided that their technical or conceptual interests or requirements are in line with the statutory objective of the GRACE project.

The ToR foresee two types of membership:

- **Active Members:** organisations and individuals<sup>2</sup> which may participate in EAB working groups and/or other types of expert groups. Active members may have access to specific project results which are intended for Active Members only.
- **Associate Members:** organisations and individuals which may participate in EAB working groups and/or other types of expert groups. Associate members shall not have access to specific project results that are intended for Active Members only.

The membership to these groups is foreseen to pursue broad, interdisciplinary representation across stakeholders' communities. The members of the EAB shall be appointed by the EAB Executive Committee from a list of suitable applicants duly selected in line with the provisions of the ToR. The appointment will be done for a period equal to the duration of the project.

The selection of members is based on a personal capacity or for the purpose of representing particular interests that generally serve a public goal and they have a clear demonstrable skillset in such areas as artificial intelligence, security, cybersecurity, dataset security; cybercrime challenges; AI asset taxonomy; AI threat landscape; AI risk management; AI Cyber Threat Intelligence; AI algorithmic security; sectorial AI expertise; data security in relation to AI; data protection, tools to fight Child Sexual Exploitation online, big data, best practices to fight CSE online; Legal framework to fight CSE online, applicable standards; relevant EU policies; data reliability; explainability and verification of technological and management processes; related technological fields, results evaluation and assessment, dissemination and prevention strategies.

The members may be reimbursed for their expenses to participate in the meetings subject to the availability of project budget.

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<sup>2</sup> The EAB may consider collaboration with other projects and/or projects' representatives.



Besides aforementioned types of members, the EAB may establish a reserve list, in accordance with the same conditions that apply to members, who shall be called to replace any members indisposed due to reasons stated below.

Members who are no longer willing or no longer capable to contribute effectively to the group's deliberations, who in the opinion of the EAB Executive Committee do not comply with the conditions set out in Article 339 of the Treaty on the functioning of the European Union or who resign, shall no longer be invited to participate in any meetings of the Board and may be replaced for the remaining duration of the project.

Organisations and public entities, such as EU bodies, offices or agencies and international organisations, may be granted an observer status; organisations and public entities appointed as observers shall nominate their representatives. Observers and their representatives may be permitted by the EAB Executive Committee to take part in the discussions of the Board and provide expertise. The representatives with observer status generally cover their own expenses.

The members, as well as invited experts and observers, are subject to the obligation of professional secrecy, which by virtue of the Treaties and the rules implementing them applies to all members of the institutions and their staff, as well as, by analogy, to the Commission's rules on security regarding the protection of Union classified information, laid down in European Commission Decisions (EU, Euratom) 2015/44310 and 2015/444<sup>3</sup>.

The list of EAB members is reported in ANNEX 4.

## 5. Structure of the GRACE EAB

The GRACE EAB consists of the following entities, as follows:

- EAB chair
- EAB co-chair
- EAB Secretariat. It will be responsible for preparing invitations and drafting agendas, proposals and minutes.
- EAB Executive Committee. It assesses and evaluates EAB membership applications.
- EAB member groups
  - Strategic Group (LEA, Research/Academia, Industry)
  - Operational Group (end-users, experts, Legals...)
  - Industry Group
  - Research and Academia Group

The role of the Secretariat will be performed by EUROPOL.

The other roles will be defined at the due time and communicated during a dedicated workshop.

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<sup>3</sup> Commission Decision (EU, Euratom) 2015/444 of 13 March 2015 on the security rules for protecting EU classified information (OJ L 72, 17.3.2015, p. 53).

## 6. Communication channels with GRACE EAB members

To facilitate communications to and among EAB members in the framework of the project, a dedicated general mailbox will be created and communicated by the Secretariat to all members of the EAB.

Furthermore, a common repository has been created to share files and presentations in order to facilitate the exchange of information and inputs among EAB and GRACE partners.

## 7. Conclusions

### 7.1. Summary

In this deliverable are described the context of the project within which the EAB is called to cooperate with the project partners in order to provide independent point of views and feedbacks on GRACE project in specific areas. The areas considered are based on strategic views on the topic of CSE, technical and academic views on the topic in order to develop tools and societal, ethics and legal assessments and final operational based on end-users needs.

In the document is also described the membership procedure, the structure of the EAB and the needed skills to perform the required activities, together with the communication channels.

### 7.2. Evaluation

The independent point of view of the EAB will be an added value for project partners and will enhance the quality of the activities implemented together with the possibility to establish a more effective networking exchange for actual and future collaborations.

In the next paragraph, for the reasons above mentioned and to make operational the EAB activities, is described a possible plan for regular meetings.

### 7.3. Future work

The EAB should meet twice a year, in person or in virtual mode, with a notice in agreement with the Consortium Agreement article 6.2.2.

The plan for ordinary meetings might be as follow<sup>4</sup>:

Date of the meeting	Notice	Sending the agenda	Adding agenda items
15/06/2021	01/05/2021	24/05/2021	01/06/2021
15/12/2021	01/11/2021	24/11/2021	01/12/2021
15/06/2022	01/05/2022	24/05/2022	01/06/2022
15/12/2022	01/11/2022	24/11/2022	01/12/2022
15/06/2023	01/05/2023	24/05/2023	01/06/2023
02/11/2023	15/09/2023	07/10/2023	15/10/2023

<sup>4</sup> Unless of force majeure issues or concurrent events.



## *D1.5 GRACE subcommittees and Advisory Board's plan and establishment*

For extraordinary meeting the timelines are shorter as described in the Consortium Agreement, article 6.2.2.

Furthermore, the EAB is requested to provide advises on the project/project deliverables on request of the partners and on specific topics based on their skills and availability. The communications will be send via email.

## ANNEX 1 – List of the deliverables

In the following table extracted from the Grant Agreement Amended are reported the list of deliverables that are needed to implement GRACE project and the colours in the table are meant to provide an immediate overview of the dissemination level of confidentiality.

**Legend:**

COLOR	LEVEL OF CONFIDENTIALITY
	PUBLIC (PU)
	RESTRICTED (CO)
	RESTRICTED OR OTHER

Deliv. No	Deliverable name	WP nr	Short name of leader	Type	Dissem. level	Delivery date
D1.1	Project Management Plan	1	VICOM	R	CO	M2
D1.2	Quality Management guidelines	1	CERTH	R	PU	M4
D1.3	Ethical and legal guidelines for the project and data management and protection plan	1	CRI	R	CO	M7
D1.4	SELP guidelines for GRACE	1	CRI	R	PU	M12
D1.5	GRACE sub-committees and Advisory Board's plan and establishment	1	EUROPOL	R	PU	M9
D1.6	Innovation Management strategy, guidelines and tools	1	VICOM	R	PU	M4
D2.1	Use Cases, Process and Data Flows Refinement V1	2	EUROPOL	R	CO	M9
D2.2	Use Cases, Process and Data Flows Refinement V2	2	EUROPOL	R	CO	M20
D2.3	Use Cases, Process and Data Flows Refinement V3	2	EUROPOL	R	CO	M31
D2.4	User requirements V1	2	EUROPOL	R	CO	M11
D2.5	User requirements V2	2	EUROPOL	R	CO	M20

D2.6	User requirements V3	2	EUROPOL	R	CO	M31
D2.7	Standardised Taxonomy and Information Exchange Formats V1	2	EUROPOL	R	CO	M9
D2.8	Standardised Taxonomy and Information Exchange Formats V2	2	EUROPOL	R	CO	M20
D2.9	Standardised Taxonomy and Information Exchange Formats V3	2	EUROPOL	R	CO	M31
D2.10	Technical Specifications and Architecture V1	2	EUROPOL	R	CO	M11
D2.11	Technical Specifications and Architecture V2	2	EUROPOL	R	CO	M20
D2.12	Technical Specifications and Architecture V3	2	EUROPOL	R	CO	M31
D2.13	Technical Specifications and Architecture V4	2	EUROPOL	R	CO	M40
D2.14	Security and auditing mechanisms report V1	2	EUROPOL	R	CO	M11
D2.15	Security and auditing mechanisms report V2	2	EUROPOL	R	CO	M20
D2.16	Security and auditing mechanisms report V3	2	EUROPOL	R	CO	M31
D2.17	Security and auditing mechanisms report V4	2	EUROPOL	R	CO	M40
D3.1	Data acquisition module V1	3	EUROPOL	OTHER	CO	M16
D3.2	Data acquisition module V2	3	EUROPOL	OTHER	CO	M23
D3.3	Data acquisition module V3	3	EUROPOL	OTHER	CO	M33
D3.4	Data pre-processing module v1	3	INOV	OTHER	CO	M16
D3.5	Data pre-processing module v2	3	INOV	OTHER	CO	M23
D3.6	Data pre-processing module v3	3	INOV	OTHER	CO	M33
D3.7	Data loading and mapping module v1	3	INOV	OTHER	CO	M16
D3.8	Data loading and mapping module v2	3	INOV	OTHER	CO	M28
D3.9	Data loading and mapping module v3	3	INOV	OTHER	CO	M38
D3.10	Content management and digital evidence tamper detection module v1	3	NICC	OTHER	CO	M16
D3.11	Content management and digital evidence tamper detection module v2	3	NICC	OTHER	CO	M28
D3.12	Content management and digital evidence tamper detection module v3	3	NICC	OTHER	CO	M38

D4.1	Modules for Visual Information Processing v1	4	VICOM	OTHER	CO	M16
D4.2	Modules for Visual Information Processing v2	4	VICOM	OTHER	CO	M28
D4.3	Modules for Visual Information Processing v3	4	VICOM	OTHER	CO	M38
D4.4	Modules for Audio Information Processing v1	4	ULE	OTHER	CO	M16
D4.5	Modules for Audio Information Processing v2	4	ULE	OTHER	CO	M28
D4.6	Modules for Audio Information Processing v3	4	ULE	OTHER	CO	M38
D4.7	Modules for Unstructured Text Processing v1	4	ULE	OTHER	CO	M16
D4.8	Modules for Unstructured Text Processing v2	4	ULE	OTHER	CO	M28
D4.9	Modules for Unstructured Text Processing v3	4	ULE	OTHER	CO	M38
D4.10	Digital evidence tamper detection module v1	4	VICOM	OTHER	CO	M16
D4.11	Digital evidence tamper detection module v2	4	VICOM	OTHER	CO	M28
D4.12	Digital evidence tamper detection module v3	4	VICOM	OTHER	CO	M38
D5.1	Report on Federated Learning infrastructure and processes	5	VICOM	R	CO	M19
D5.2	Federated data annotation tools	5	SYN	OTHER	CO	M19
D5.3	Report on Federated Learning strategies	5	CERTH	R	PU	M24
D5.4	Secure data exchange mechanism	5	SYN	OTHER	CO	M24
D5.5	Federated Learning system analysis	5	CERTH	R	CO	M30
D6.1	Module(s) to perform cross-matching and entity mapping between referrals	6	EUROPOL	OTHER	CO	M38
D6.2	Module(s) to perform content analysis and classification	6	ULE	OTHER	CO	M38
D6.3	Module(s) to perform content-based geo-location	6	CERTH	OTHER	CO	M38
D6.4	Module(s) to perform analysis of knowledge graphs for evidence data fusion	6	ENG	OTHER	CO	M38
D6.5	Module(s) to perform prioritisation on OSP referral data	6	CENTRIC	OTHER	CO	M38
D6.6	Module(s) for predictive analysis of short and long-term trends in CSEM	6	CENTRIC	OTHER	CO	M38
D7.1	Orchestration Framework v1	7	ENG	OTHER	CO	M16

D7.2	Orchestration Framework v2	7	ENG	OTHER	CO	M28
D7.3	GRACE System v1	7	NICC	OTHER	CO	M16
D7.4	GRACE System v2	7	NICC	OTHER	CO	M28
D7.5	GRACE System v3	7	NICC	OTHER	CO	M38
D7.6	GRACE Collaborative applications v1	7	ENG	OTHER	CO	M16
D7.7	GRACE Collaborative applications v2	7	ENG	OTHER	CO	M28
D7.8	GRACE Collaborative applications v3	7	ENG	OTHER	CO	M38
D7.9	Technical validation report v1	7	SYN	R	CO	M12
D7.10	Technical validation report v2	7	SYN	R	CO	M17
D7.11	Technical validation report v3	7	SYN	R	CO	M24
D7.12	Technical validation report v4	7	SYN	R	CO	M29
D7.13	Technical validation report v5	7	SYN	R	CO	M34
D7.14	Technical validation report v6	7	SYN	R	CO	M40
D8.1	Pilots scenario definition v1	8	EUROPOL	R	CO	M9
D8.2	Pilots scenario definition v2	8	EUROPOL	R	CO	M20
D8.3	Pilots scenario definition v3	8	EUROPOL	R	CO	M31
D8.4	Pilots preparation plan v1	8	CERTH	R	CO	M16
D8.5	Pilots preparation plan v2	8	CERTH	R	CO	M28
D8.6	Pilots preparation plan v3	8	CERTH	R	CO	M38
D8.7	Report on pilots' execution v1	8	EUROPOL	R	CO	M19
D8.8	Report on pilots' execution v2	8	EUROPOL	R	CO	M30
D8.9	Report on pilots' execution v3	8	EUROPOL	R	CO	M41
D8.10	Report on pilots' evaluation & assessment v1	8	EUROPOL	R	CO	M20
D8.11	Report on pilots' evaluation & assessment v2	8	EUROPOL	R	CO	M31

D8.12	Report on pilots' evaluation & assessment v3	8	EUROPOL	R	CO	M42
D9.1	Ethical report v1	9	CRI	R	PU	M10
D9.2	Ethical report v2	9	CRI	R	PU	M38
D9.3	Legal report v1	9	CRI	R	PU	M12
D9.4	Legal report v2	9	CRI	R	PU	M38
D9.5	Overall legal and ethical framework v1	9	CRI	R	PU	M19
D9.6	Overall legal and ethical framework v2	9	CRI	R	PU	M38
D9.7	Architecture for technical safeguards – “security and privacy by design” v1	9	CRI	R	PU	M19
D9.8	Architecture for technical safeguards – “security and privacy by design” v2	9	CRI	R	PU	M38
D9.9	Review Mechanism and Procedure	9	EUC	R	PU	M38
D10.1	GRACE communication, visibility and dissemination plan	10	CENTRIC	R	CO	M6
D10.2	GRACE website, social media presence and dissemination materials	10	CENTRIC	R	PU	M3
D10.3	GRACE exploitation plan and business models v1	10	VICOM	R	CO	M19
D10.4	GRACE exploitation plan and business models v2	10	VICOM		CO	M42
D10.5	Development of GRACE training packages for EUROPOL and MS LEAs	10	EUC	Websites, patents filling, etc	CO	M38
D10.6	Stakeholder and policy recommendations for addressing online CSEM v1	10	EUROPOL	R	PU	M9
D10.7	Stakeholder and policy recommendations for addressing online CSEM v2	10	EUROPOL	R	PU	M38
D10.8	Best Practices on Victim support for LEA first responders v1	10	EUROPOL	R	PU	M13
D10.9	Best Practices on Victim support for LEA first responders v2	10	EUROPOL	R	PU	M38
D11.1	POPD – Requirement No. 2	11	VICOM	Ethics	CO	M6



## ANNEX 2 – Extracts from the project

**Task 1.4 Management of GRACE external boards [M01-M36]** (Leader: EUROPOL; Participants: VICOM, EUC, NICC, PJ; Deliverables: D1.5)

This task will focus on the establishment of the GRACE sub-committees and the advisory board, and defining its structure, members and governance policies in accordance with the overall GRACE governance structure. The sub-committees and the advisory board shall cover different technical, scientific, ethical, and legal aspects in accordance with the project needs. Drawing upon its unique position within the international law enforcement community, EUROPOL will facilitate the stakeholder engagement and collaboration with the different stakeholder groups of pertinence for the project. This will enable the efficient coordination and alignment of the project related activities, as well as avoiding duplication internally within GRACE and externally with other initiatives and ongoing efforts within the wider cyber security community. Section 3.2 provides additional details.

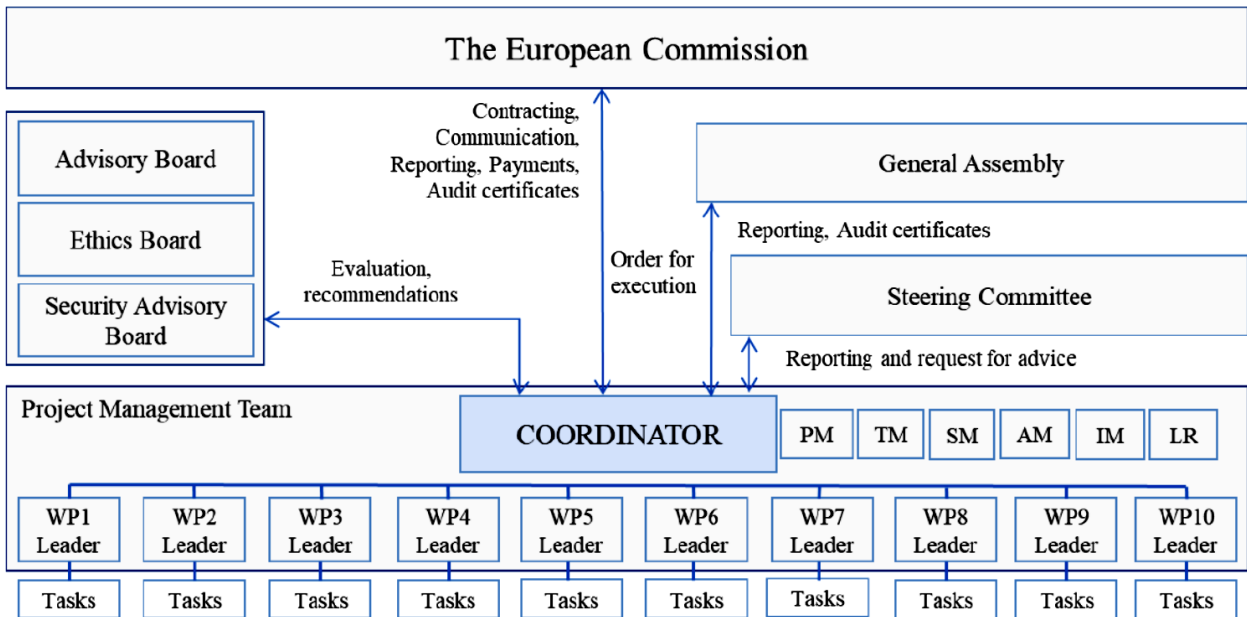
The **Advisory Board (AB)** will be setup by Europol according to task 1.4. The role of the advisory group is to complement the technical and user requirements and the architecture, and to participate in project dissemination and communication tasks. The Advisory Board will be funded under the Coordinator's budget. The Advisory Board consists of representatives and organisations aligned with the different fields of expertise related to GRACE. Some of the members of the AB have shown their interest in the GRACE project, letters of support can be found in Section 4 and a detailed description in Section 3.3.

### Contents of Task 8.4

**Task 8.4 Evaluation & Assessment [M09-M42]** (Leader: EUROPOL; Participants: all-partners *except*: CERTH, CRI, ENG, L3CE, NICC, SYN, ULE)

The main objective of this task is to provide at first place the evaluation methodology for the overall performance of the GRACE tools that will be tested in T8.3. As GRACE tools cover a wide range of application domains, the GRACE evaluation methodology will utilise a set of evaluation techniques related to the characteristics of each individual tool. In particular, the performance of a number of tools will be validated through the analysis of results generated during the implementation of the GRACE pilot scenarios. Additional information will be provided through the implementation of structured interviews with the end-users (Police Officers, Forensics analysts, Investigators) who will utilize the GRACE tools. The project's Advisory Board will also develop a high-level strategic evaluation of the overall performance of GRACE tools based on their participation during the implementation of GRACE case studies. This evaluation will be based on the satisfaction of the project's main objectives. This evaluation methodology will be applied to prepare a final report including assessment on the maturity of GRACE tools. This evaluation process will include areas for improvement in both the concept and system and will incorporate the feedback received from end-user members and stakeholders. The main activities address the following: (i) Apply evaluation criteria allowing objective measurements (metrics), and (ii) Validate measured results against prequalified user requirements (in WP2) and assess the level of fulfilment (considering that the trials might only implement a subset of all possible capabilities). The task and its KPIs are linked to T7.5.

## ANNEX 3 – Structure of the project governance



## ANNEX 4 – List of EAB members

The list of organisations that agreed to be part of the External Advisory Board are reported in the following list according to Section 5.

### Executive committee

1. Chair: Katholieke Universiteit Leuven - KU Leuven (BE)
2. Co-chair: National Center for Missing & Exploited Children - NCMEC (USA)
3. Secretariat: Europol/European Cybercrime Centre (EC3)(EU/NL)

### EAB member groups

4. Members of the Strategic group
  - INTERPOL (INT)
  - National Child Exploitation Crime Centre - NCECC (CA)
  - Hochschule Der Polizei Branderburg (DE)
  
5. Members of the Operational group:
  - International Hotline Operators of Europe - INHOPE (NL)
  - Dutch Police Expertisebureau Online Kindermisbruik – Dutch Police EOKM (NL)
  - DNA (ITA)
  - European Network of Law Enforcement Technology Services - ENLETS (EU - SubGroup of Law Enforcement Working Party at the Consilium of European Union)
  - University of the Aegean, Department of Information & Communication Systems Engineering. (GR)
  
6. Members of the Industry group:
  - International Telecommunication Union - ITU (INT)
  
7. Members of the Research and Academia group:
  - The University of Guelph-Humber
  - United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute - UNICRI (UN)
  - School of Computer Science & IT, University College Cork (IE)