



## Session 4:

### How can we efficiently master cross-border judicial videoconferences? The International Organizational and Technical Perspective

## The VC4Justice Project

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# Agenda

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## VC4Justice

01

**The VC4Justice project**

03

**Moving forward : 4 scenarios**

02

**What's wrong with cross border  
judicial exchanges via VC?**

04

**The Belgian case**

# 1.

## Introduction

# Introduction

What is this project about?

## THE PROJECT ITSELF

- **Programme:** Justice Programme (DG JUST)
- **Name:** Case study on the use of videoconferencing tool for the hearing of a key witness in the context of a cross-border drug trafficking investigation.
- **Aspects:** Legal / Business / Organisational / Technical
- **Consortium:** Belgian Justice & Sopra Steria (BE and FR)
- **Acronym:** VC4Justice
- **Start/end dates:** 1<sup>st</sup> January 2025 <-> 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025
- **Duration:** 12 months





# Project Outputs

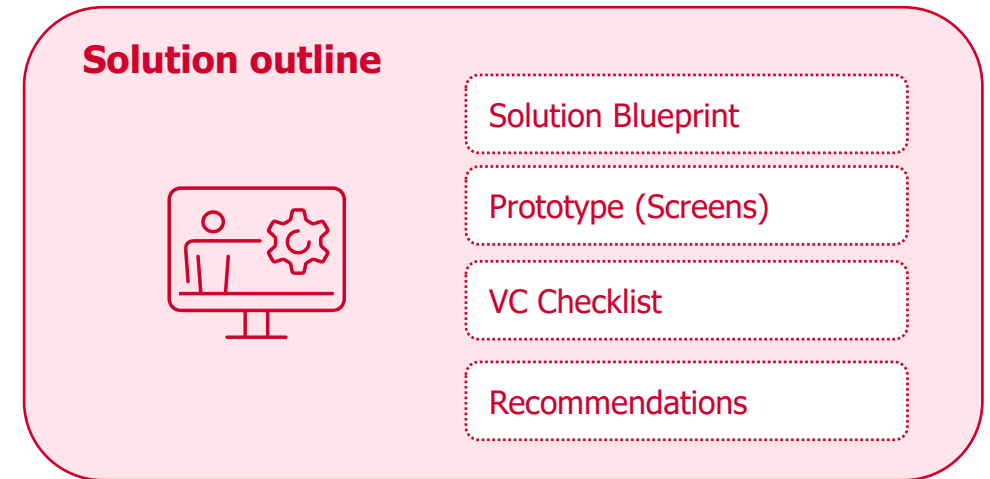
This study intends to deliver...

A **package of initial inputs** to fast track the revamping of an existing VC project OR the start of a new one, **for any Member States** and for **most Justice use cases**.

*In the form of the following deliverables :*



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\* There is no development nor software delivery foreseen.

# 2.

What's wrong with cross border  
judicial exchanges via VC?

# Main challenges



## Legal

- Misaligned concepts & definitions
- Varying national laws (e.g. recording)
- Divergent approaches to identification
- Sovereignty & data protection



## Business

- Varying practices & culture
- Heterogeneous business processes (before – during - after)
- Avoid wasting past investments
- Overloaded authorities and prioritisation
- Currently : low value -> low use
- Cost of non-VC : Security, Resources , Less cooperation, Unseized opportunity ?



## Organisational

- Heterogeneous judicial organisations
- Uneven support during hearings
- Resistance to change and/or low digital maturity/vision
- Heavy administrative processes



## Technical

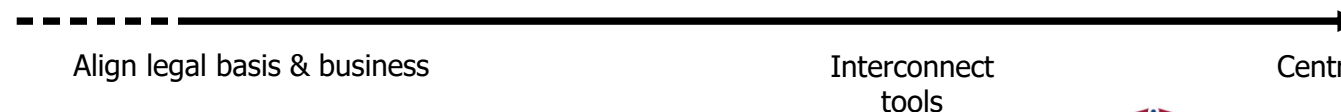
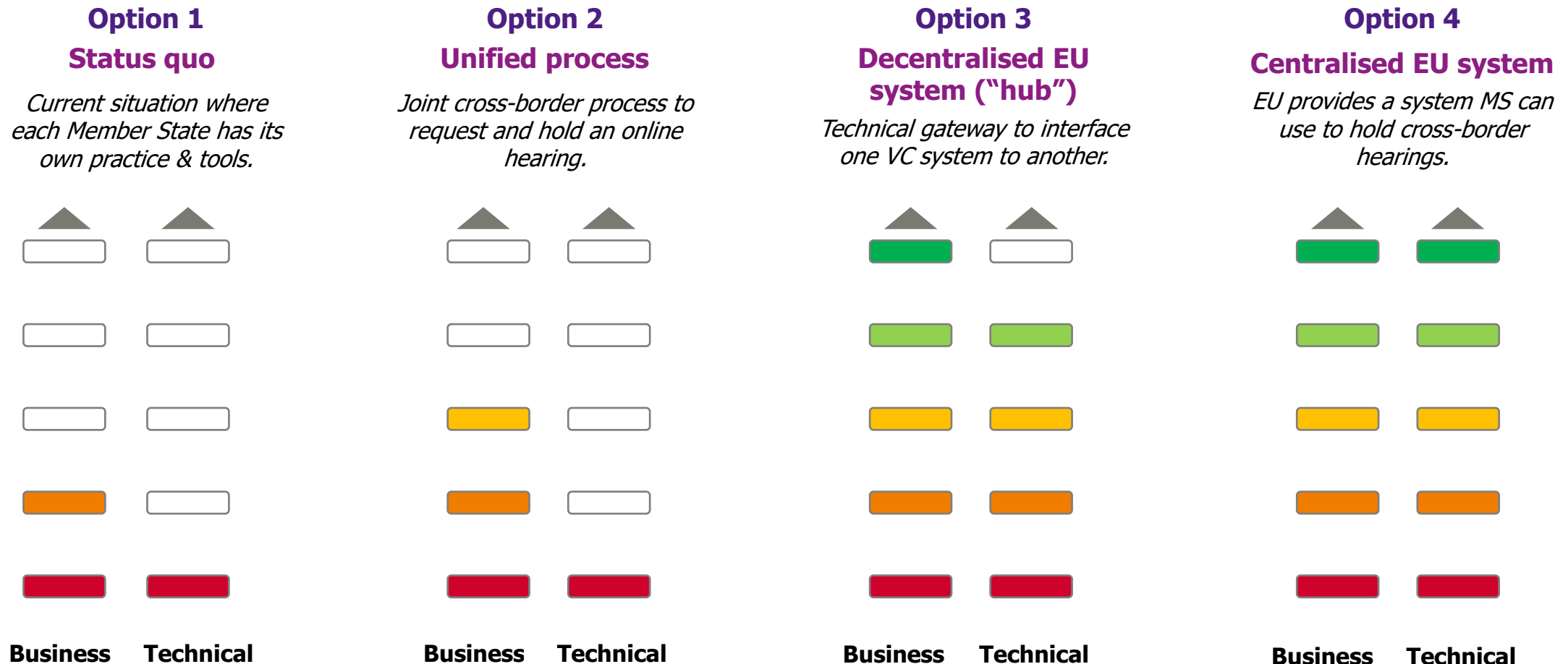
- Different software, different equipment,
- Underfunded, not a priority?
- Various standards, protocols (video, audio)
- Non-EU solutions providers (US)
- Security and access control
- Challenging interoperability

# 3.

## Moving forward : 4 scenarios



# Different options





# 4.

## A concrete case with Belgium





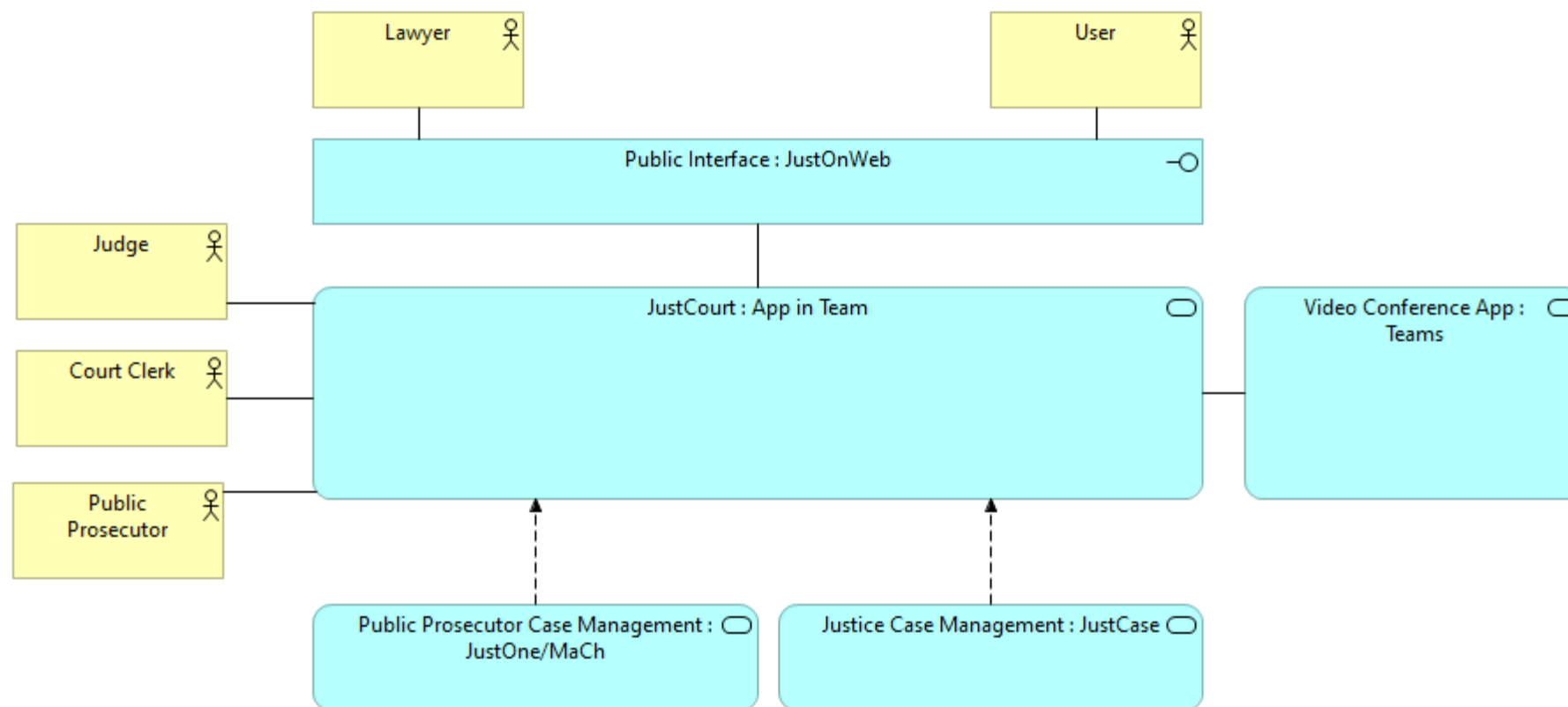
# JustCourt



FEDERALE OVERHEIDSDIENST JUSTITIE  
SERVICE PUBLIC FÉDÉRAL JUSTICE  
FÖDERALER ÖFFENTLICHER DIENST JUSTIZ  
FEDERAL PUBLIC SERVICE JUSTICE

.be

# Logical Architecture

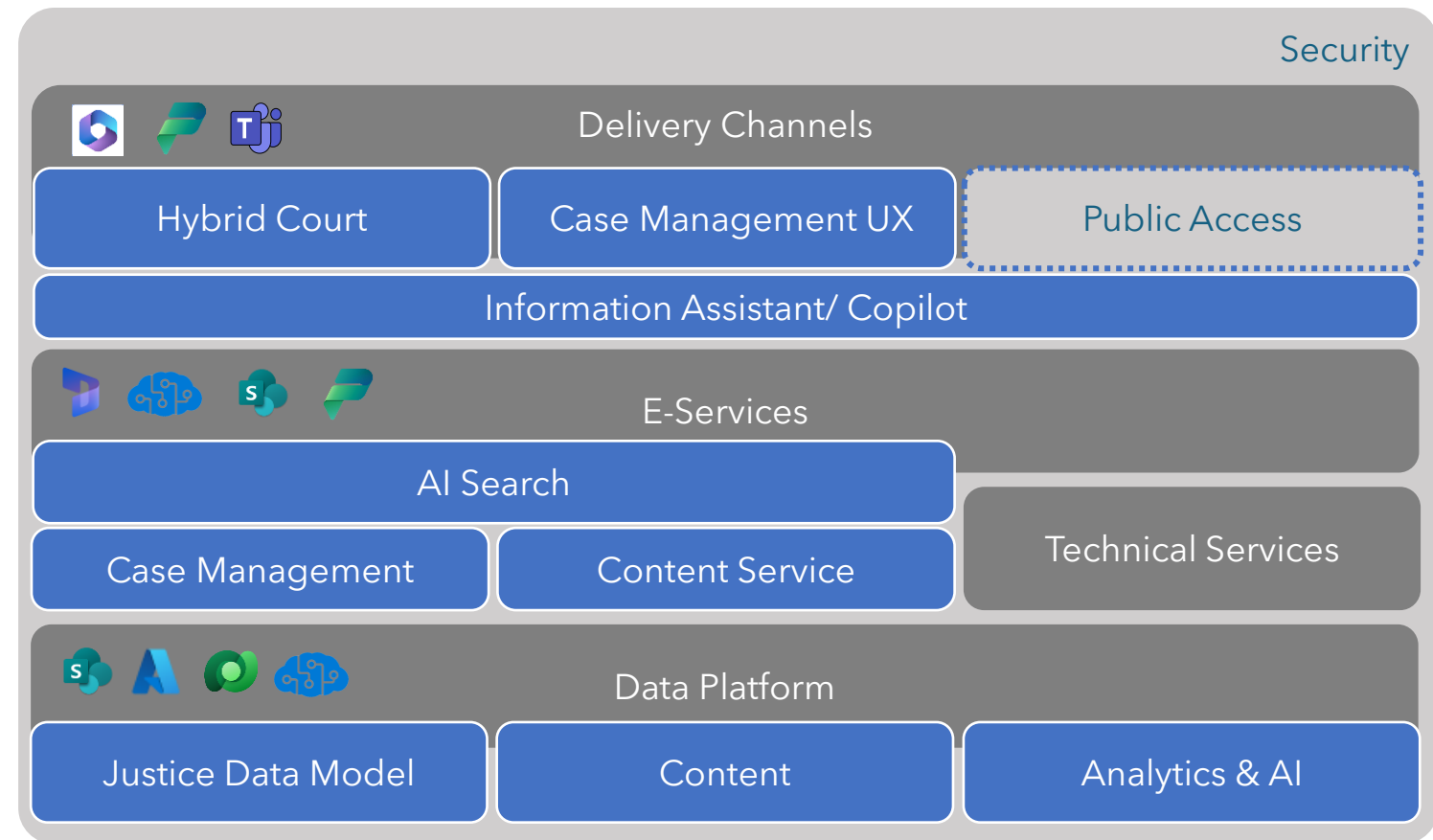




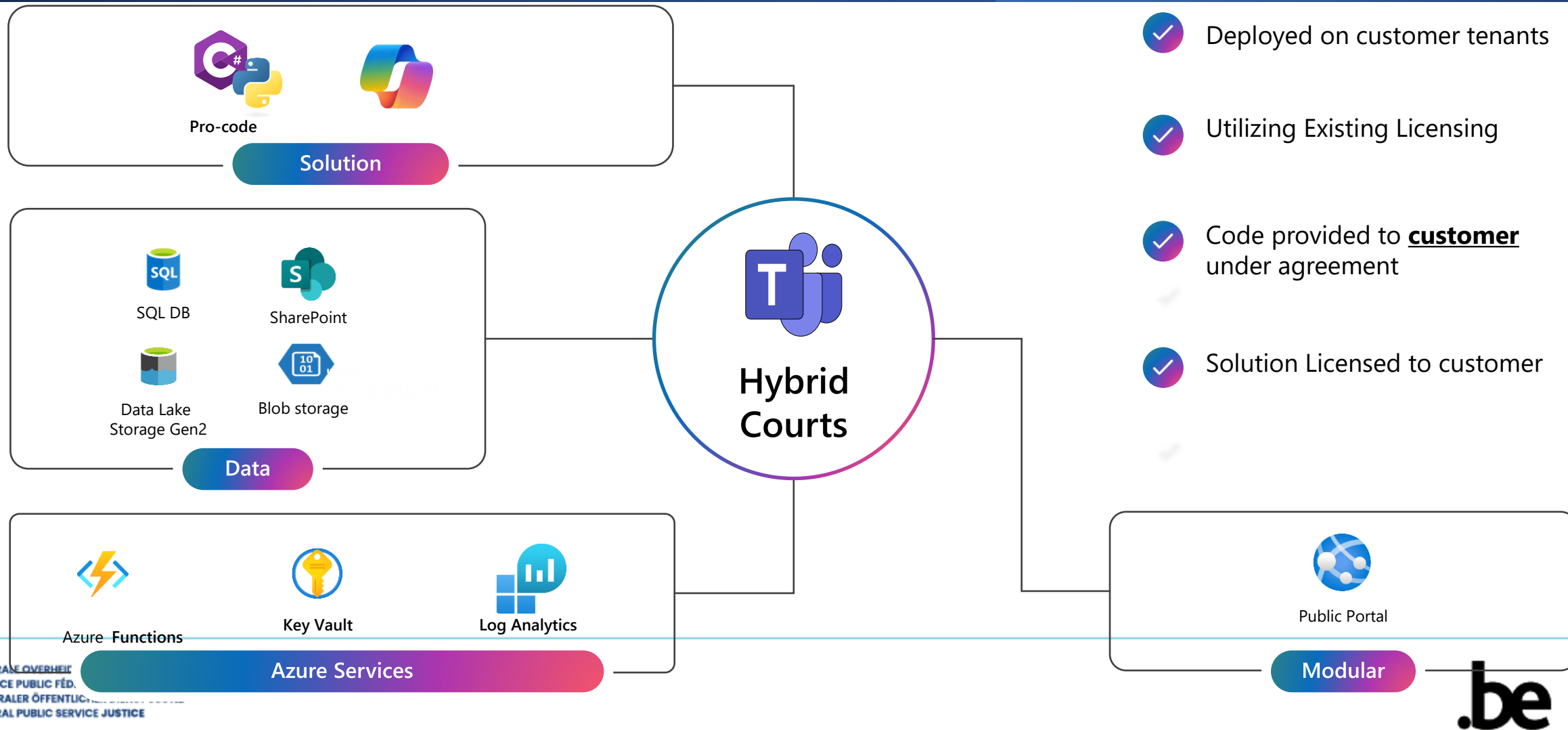
# Logical Architecture

## Architecture principles:

- **Secure by Design**
- **Configure over Customize**
- **Reuse existing system capabilities**
- **Innovation**
- **Design for Operations**
- **Focus on simplification**
- **Mitigate risks early**
- **Standardization**



# Innovation Partnership



# Logical Architecture

## Justice Management Platform:Portal

**Live**

Hearing Start Date	Hearing Start Time	Case No	Chamber	Courtroom Name	Hearing Type	Attendance Type
23/9/2023	9:00 AM	21M000142	Antwerp Co...	Courtroom 20	Openbare zitting	Attend Remotely
23/9/2023	10:00 AM	21M000296	Antwerp Co...	Courtroom 20	Openbare zitting	In Person
29/9/2023	9:00 AM	21M000345	Antwerp Co...	Courtroom 20	Openbare zitting	In person Only
1/10/2023	9:00 AM	21M000908	Antwerp Co...	Courtroom 20	Openbare zitting	Select Preference

- Citizen and Lawyers access via IAM
- My Hearings and Previous Hearing metadata
- Ability to select preference to attend.

## MS Teams Apps

**Live**

Case number	Party	Message	Action
20M000994	Suzy Van hoogenbeem	Attending remotely	Approved
20M001007	Bruno Zhao	I would not be ab...	Approved
20M001314	Beth Davies	Attending remotely	Approved
20M000643	Kayo Miwa	I would like to att...	Approved
20M000643	Kayo Miwa	I would like to att...	Approved

- Judicial and Public prosecutor staff access via embedded Teams App
- Single Sign On via IAM / AAD
- Manage Hearings
- Zero touch data import from CMS

## MS Teams & In Meeting Apps

**Live**

**In zitting**  
Kamer 20

**Zaak details**  
Zaak nummer: 21M000142  
Dossier nummer: 21C00580

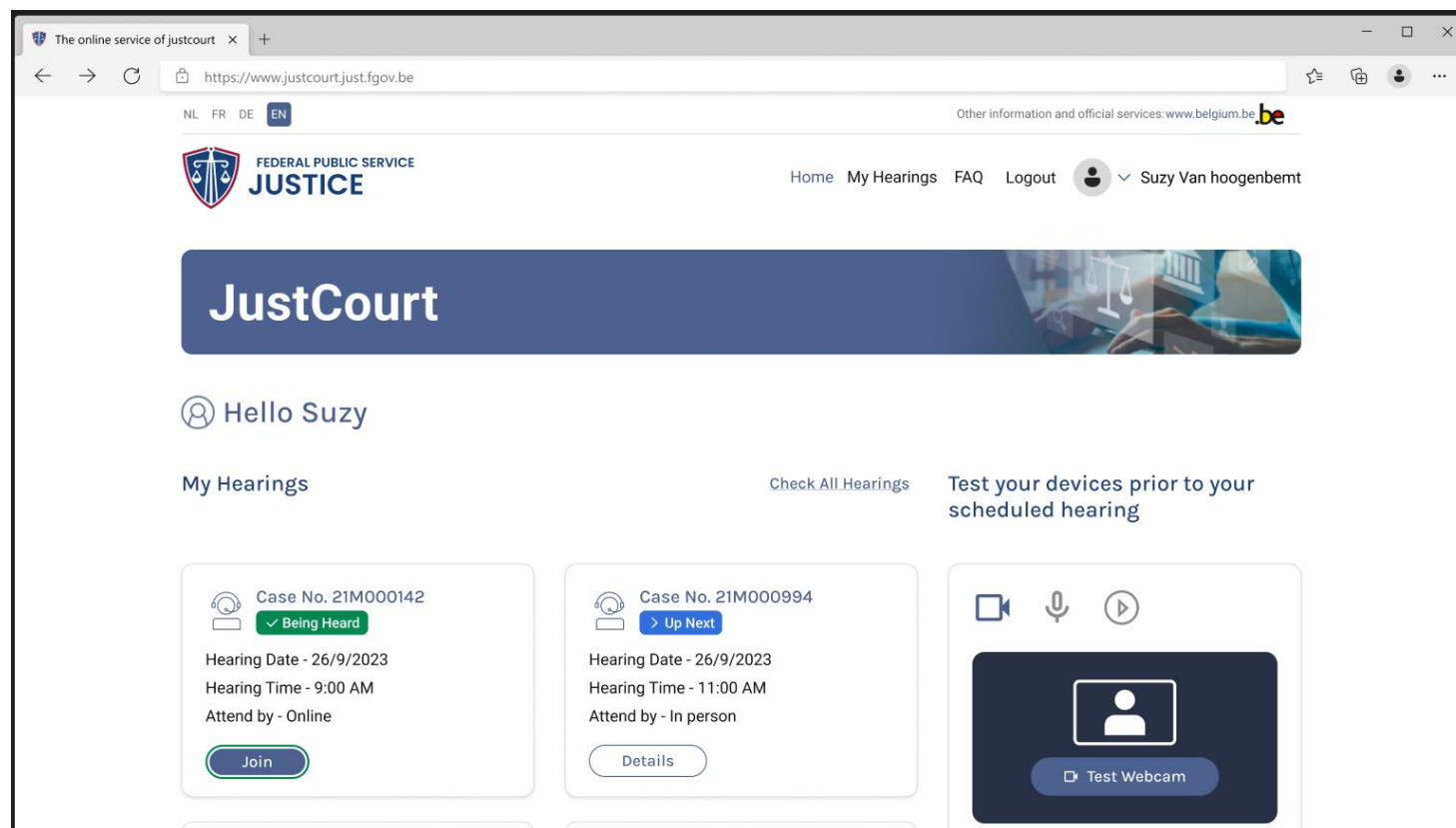
**in deze vergadering**

- Suzy Van hoogenbeem (Burger)
- Dominique Claes (Advocaat)
- Jan McKay (Rechter)
- Glenn DE VYLDER (Openbaar aanklager)
- Edler Van Hemelryck (Burger)
- Evellin Jacobs (Burger)
- Gerrit Peters (Burger)
- Volken Casello (Burger)
- Kris Loyckx (Burger)

- Judicial and Public prosecutor staff access embedded In Meeting App
  - Roll Call / Attendance App
  - Case Information
- Client and Web browser



# Justice Management Platform: Portal



## Public Portal

- Citizen centric approach
- Ease of navigation
- Ability to test hardware prior to hearing
- Ability to request appointment
- Role Based:
- Advanced features for Lawyers





# Justice Management Platform: Portal

The online service of justcourt x

https://www.justcourt.just.fgov.be

NL FR DE EN Other information and official services: www.belgium.be .be

FEDERAL PUBLIC SERVICE JUSTICE

Home My Hearings FAQ Logout Suzy Van hoogenbemt

## JustCourt

My Hearings Select Date Search Case Number Previous Hearings

Today Week Download Week.ics

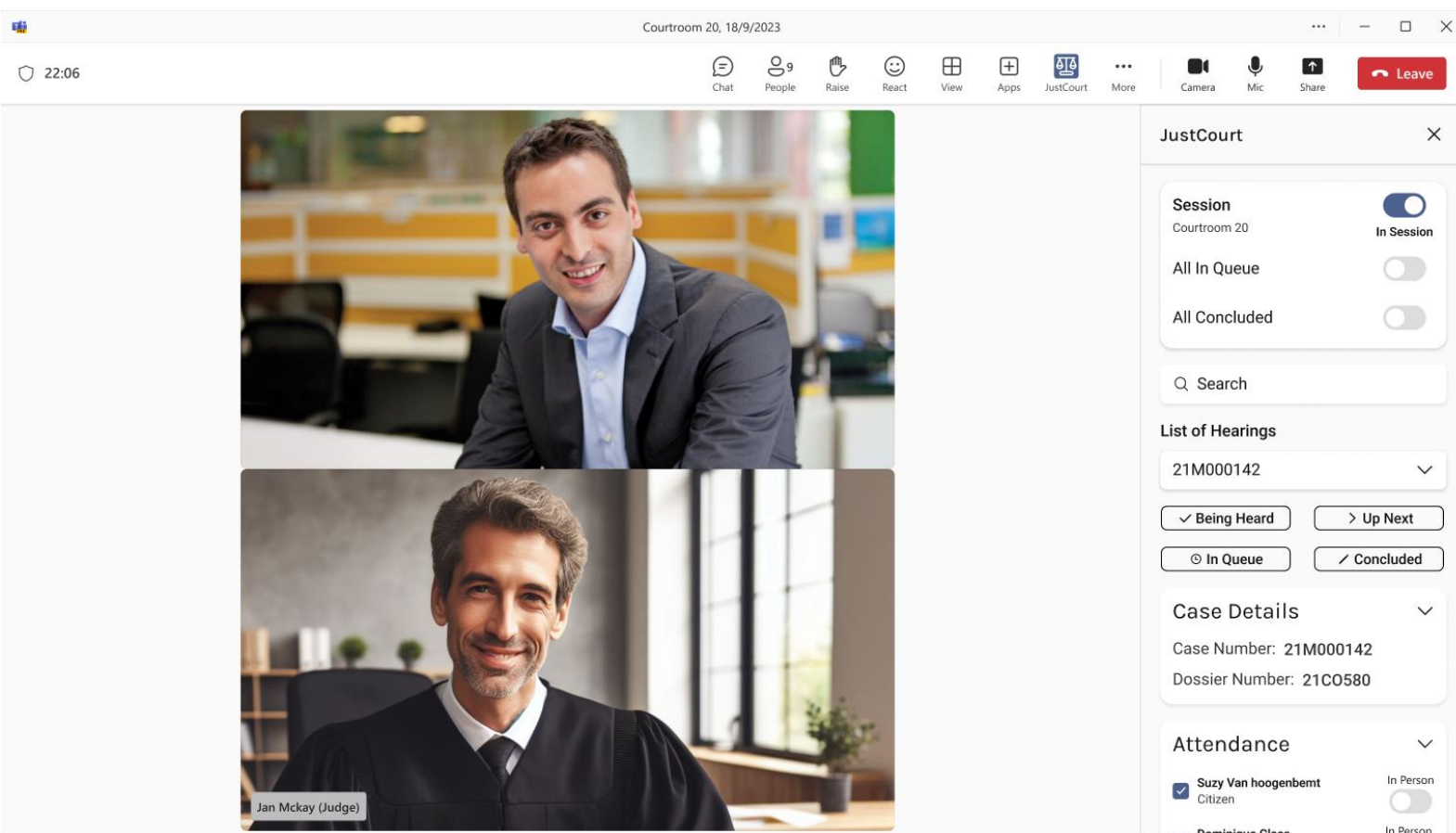
Case No 1	25 Sep Monday	26 Sep Tuesday	27 Sep Wednesday	28 Sep Thursday	29 Sep Friday
<a href="#">21M000142</a> Dossier No - 21C0580 ✓ Being Heard		Courtroom No - 2 9:00 AM Brussel ✓ In Session Join Online			
<a href="#">21M000723</a> Dossier No - 21C0580 > Up Next		Courtroom No - 2 10:00 AM Brussel ✓ In Session Join Online			

## Public Portal

- Lawyer Centric
- Calendar View
- Ability to track hearing status
- Ability to download to Calendar
- Ability to request



# JustCourt Teams In Teams App



## In Meeting App

- Granular control per hearing
- Ability for Clerk / Judge to facilitate hearings as they conduct their Courtroom
- Digital Attendance recording





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Thank you

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# Interested?

## Join us for the **VC4Justice – Experts Talk**



Tuesday 02 December 2025, Brussels



Want to know more and stay informed?

Check out our website and subscribe to our newsletter! [www.VC4Justice.eu](http://www.VC4Justice.eu)





# Thank you!

