



**CROATIAN PARLIAMENT
DOMESTIC POLICY AND NATIONAL SECURITY COMMITTEE**

Zagreb, 14 June 2019

Subject: Position of the Domestic Policy and National Security Committee regarding the participation of the Danish Parliament in the JPSG on Europol

At its 56th session, held on 14 June 2019, the Domestic Policy and National Security Committee discussed, in accordance with Article 51 of the Standing Orders of the Croatian Parliament, the right of the Danish Parliament to participate in the JPSG on Europol.

Following the discussion, the Committee made the following

CONCLUSION:

- 1. We shall support to grant the Danish Parliament the status of an Associate Member to the JPSG, with the recognition of the right to appoint a maximum of 4 members in the JPSG, attend JPSG meetings and JPSG subgroups meetings and the right to address both oral and written questions to Europol, however without the right to take part in the decision-making, participation in the Presidential Troika and the JPSG Secretariat and without the possibility of appointing members of the Danish Delegation as a JPSG representative to the Management Board of Europol.**
- 2. It is proposed that the Danish Parliament's status, as an Associate Member, be regulated in a separate Declaration or Protocol which will be an annex to the JPSG's Rules of Procedure.**

Explanation:

The Committee is of the opinion that recognizing the status of an Associate Member confirms the particularities of Denmark and Europol relations, while at the same time it guarantees Denmark the degree of participation in the JPSG in accordance with the Agreement on Operational and Strategic Cooperation between Denmark and Europol.

With regard to the document determining the rights of the Danish Parliament in the JPSG, the Committee proposes the adoption of a separate Declaration or Protocol for the following reasons:

1. The rights of individual Member States are generally not regulated by an act such as the Rules of Procedure,
2. The regulation of the Danish Parliament's status in a separate Protocol or Declaration excludes the possibility of reviewing Denmark's status each time the JPSG Rules of Procedure are revised,
3. The regulation of the Danish Parliament's status within the JPSG Rules of Procedure would imply that the status of an Associate Member would be recognized *ex lege* to all future EU Member States who might conclude the Agreement on Operational and Strategic Cooperation with Europol, although they do not apply the Europol Regulation. In such circumstances, without revising the JPSG Rules of Procedure, the JPSG will not be able to exclude individual future EU Member State from participating in Europol's political scrutiny, even if it is assessed that the country does not have satisfactory standards of data protection or, for example, does not contribute to the Europol budget at the appropriate level, does not strive to establish the Schengen regime, etc.

CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE

Ranko Ostojić