



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2009 - 2014

Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

LIBE/7/06098

INTERPARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE MEETING WITH NATIONAL PARLIAMENTS

DEMOCRATIC ACCOUNTABILITY OF THE INTERNAL SECURITY STRATEGY AND THE ROLE OF EUROPOL, EUROJUST AND FRONTEX

DRAFT PROGRAMME

Wednesday 5 October 2011, 15:00 – 18:30
Thursday 6 October 2011, 09:00 – 12:30

Hemicycle
European Parliament, Brussels

INTRODUCTION

Following the adoption of the Stockholm Programme (10 December 2009) the Council adopted in February 2010 the Internal Security Strategy for the European Union. This was followed, *inter alia*, by the work of the Standing Committee on Operational Cooperation on Internal Security (COSI, article 71 TFEU) and by the Commission Communication on the Internal Security Strategy adopted on 22 November 2010, laying down concrete proposals for action.

In line with the provisions of the Lisbon Treaty, the issues calling for a thorough reflection on the role of national Parliaments and the European Parliament in this new setting are in particular: the methods of the threat assessment on the EU level, defining of intervention priorities, establishment of links with national security strategies as well as the EU external security strategy by preserving the “mutual respect” clause foreseen by art 40 TEU.

In this framework special attention should be given to the role of the European agencies operating in the security domain such as Europol, Eurojust and Frontex, by highlighting the parliamentary oversight over them.

Such a Parliamentary oversight is clearly rooted in the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union which already provides for the involvement of national Parliaments and the European Parliament in the evaluation of the EU policies dealing with the Area of Freedom, Security and Justice area (article 70 TFEU), with the operational cooperation on EU internal security (article 71 TFEU) as well as the evaluation of Eurojust (article 85 TFEU) and the scrutiny of Europol (article 88 TFEU).

Two years after the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty, the EU is still far from establishing a sound legal framework to grant a parliamentary oversight. In consequence the EU security policies are evolving *de facto* without any structured, meaningful parliamentary oversight and evaluation, with only exception of the limited intervention when legislative measures have to be established.

Under this unsatisfactory situation the EP convened in October 2010 an interparliamentary committee meeting¹, at which several proposals and recommendation were debated, including the proposal to establish a regular joint assessment of the evolution of these policies as well as of the above-mentioned EU Agencies.

In 2011 it is proposed to take stock of the measures already taken or recommended by the Council and the Commission² as well as several implementing measures, such as the definition of a European Policy Cycle as well as an enhanced cooperation framework for the EU Agencies and bodies working in this domain (SITCEN, EUROPOL, EUROJUST and FRONTEX).

¹ See the Programme as well the main documents discussed here:

http://www.europarl.europa.eu/meetdocs/2009_2014/organes/libe/libe_20101004_1500.htm

² See : <http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/10/st05/st05842-re02.en10.pdf>

Wednesday, 5 October, 2011

Chair: Mr Juan Fernando LÓPEZ AGUILAR, Chairman of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs of the European Parliament

15.00 – 16.30 OPENING SESSION

FRAMING AN INTERNAL SECURITY STRATEGY BY PRESERVING FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS AND GRANTING THE DEMOCRATIC ACCOUNTABILITY

Welcome by the Chair, **Mr Juan Fernando LÓPEZ AGUILAR**

Ms Cecilia MALMSTRÖM, Commissioner for Home Affairs

Mr Adam RAPACKI, Chairman of the Standing Committee on Internal Security (COSI), Polish Presidency of the Council

Ms Rita BORSELLINO, Rapporteur on the European Union's Internal Security Strategy, Member of the LIBE Committee, European Parliament

Prof Giuseppe CATALDI, University of Naples, External Expert

Discussion **16.30 – 17.30 SESSION I**

ASSESSING, PREVENTING AND FIGHTING ORGANISED CRIME AND TERRORISM: THE ROLE OF EUROPOL AND ITS COOPERATION WITH NATIONAL ADMINISTRATION

Mr Rob WAINWRIGHT, Director of Europol

Mr Agustín DÍAZ DE MERA GARCÍA CONSUEGRA, Member of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs, European Parliament

Prof Jörg MONAR, Director of Studies at the College of Europe, chair in contemporary European Studies at the University of Sussex in Brighton; External Expert

Discussion

The reflection on the modalities and the remits of the EUROPOL scrutiny is an essential exercise in which legislators (national and European) should engage from the very early stages. The Commission Communication on the procedures for the scrutiny of Europol's activities by the European Parliament, together with national Parliaments from December 2010¹ has provided some elements of response as to how the scrutiny could be organised drawing from national experiences and EP's resolutions on the subject. This session can be one of the frameworks for such a discussion by starting from an assessment of the activities already taken or envisaged by Europol.

¹ COM(2010)776 final.

17.30 – 18.30 SESSION II

BUILDING A EUROPEAN JUDICIAL SPACE INTERTWINED WITH THE NATIONAL JUDICIAL SPACES: THE ROLE OF EUROJUST

Mr Aled WILLIAMS, President of the College of Eurojust

Ms Renate WEBER, Rapporteur on Eurojust, Member of the Committee on Civil Liberties,
Justice and Home Affairs, European Parliament

Mr Jerzy MONTAG Member of the German Bundestag

Prof Henri LABAYLE, Faculty of Bayonne, External Expert

Discussion

Foreseen by the Tampere Conclusions, and already existing since 2001 as provisional Eurojust (pro-Eurojust), Eurojust was formally established in 2002 and further strengthened with Council Decision 2009/426/JHA of 16 December 2008.

Eurojust is composed by one National Member, being a judge, a prosecutor or a police officer of equivalent competence, seconded by each Member State. It has the task of stimulating and improving coordination and cooperation concerning trans-national investigations and prosecutions.

The Treaty of Lisbon devotes a specific provision to Eurojust and provides for the European Parliament and national Parliaments to evaluate its activities.

This session will be an opportunity to discuss the current activities of Eurojust, as well as the future perspectives in light of the Lisbon Treaty.

18.30 Cocktail

Espace Mezzanine
Paul-Henri Spaak Building - 2nd floor

Thursday, 6 October, 2011

Chair: Lord Hannay of Chiswick, Chairman of the EU Home Affairs Committee, House of Lords, United Kingdom

09.00 – 10.30 SESSION III

PROTECTING THE EU BORDERS AND STRENGTHENING THE EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY AND SCHENGEN COOPERATION: THE ROLE OF FRONTEX

Mr Ilkka LAITINEN, Director of Frontex

Mr Simon BUSUTTIL, Rapporteur on FRONTEX, Member of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs, European Parliament

Mrs Vassiliki TSONOGLOU, member of the Standing Committee on Public Administration Public Order and Justice, the Hellenic Parliament

Discussion

The European Parliament and the Council have recently agreed a new mandate for the European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at the External Borders of the Member States of the European Union (Frontex) which should coordinate operational cooperation between Member States in the field of management of external borders. This session will be an opportunity to discuss the evolving framework of the EU border protection as well as the role of Frontex and methods of improvement of cooperation with the national Border authorities.

10.30 – 12.30 CLOSING SESSION

FITTING ALL TOGETHER: HOW NATIONAL PARLIAMENTS AND THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT CAN STRENGTHEN THEIR MUTUAL COOPERATION AND THE OVERSIGHT OVER THE AGENCIES

Mr Juan Fernando LÓPEZ AGUILAR, Chairman of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs, European Parliament

Mr Paulo PISCO Member of the European Affairs Committee, Portuguese Parliament

Ms Jean LAMBERT, Member of the LIBE Committee, European Parliament

Mr Keith VAZ, Chair of the UK House of Commons Home Affairs Committee

Mr Carlos COELHO, Rapporteur on Schengen, Member of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs, European Parliament

Discussion

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR THOSE WISHING TO ATTEND THE MEETING

This meeting is open to the public. However, for security reasons, participants who do not have a European Parliament access badge must obtain a pass in advance. Those wishing to obtain such a pass should contact the secretariat (libe-secretariat@europarl.europa.eu) by **26 September 2011**. It is essential to provide us with your LAST NAME, first name, date of birth, nationality, type of the ID (passport, identity card, driving licence, etc.), number of the ID, address and company/ institution/ organisation. Without this information, the Security Service will not provide entry passes.

• *Registration for participants from national Parliaments is available on-line between 12 September 2011 and 26 September 2011 at http://www.opinio.europarl.europa.eu/opinio/s?s=2011_icm_libe*

PRACTICAL GUIDELINES FOR THE DEBATE

- *Presentations opening each session will be limited to **ten minutes**.*
- *To make it possible for the highest number of parliamentarians to participate in the debate, speaking time will be limited to **two minutes** per contribution / question.*
- *Members are kindly asked to fill in the sheet requesting speaking time (indicating their name and parliament) which will be distributed in the meeting room. The floor will be given in turn to two Members of national Parliaments, followed by one Member of the European Parliament and so forth.*
- *Speakers wishing to supplement their speeches may do so in writing by submitting a document (preferably in English or French) in advance to the secretariat (email: libe-secretariat@europarl.europa.eu). These documents will be circulated during the meeting.*
- *Meeting documents will be progressively added to the Hearings section of the LIBE Committee pages: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/activities/committees/homeCom.do?language=EN&body=LIBE> and to the EP webpage on Relations with national Parliaments: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/webnp/cms/op/edit/lang/en/pid/15?eventDate=05.10.2011>*

THE MEETING IS BROADCASTED LIVE AND RECORDED

LIBE Committee pages:

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/activities/committees/homeCom.do?language=EN&body=LIBE>

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

LIBE Secretariat	Relations with national Parliaments
Emilio DE CAPITANI Head of the LIBE Secretariat Office: RMD 04J034 Phone: +32(0)2 28 44943 libe-secretariat@europarl.europa.eu	Patrizia PRODE Head of Unit, Legislative Dialogue Unit Office: WIE 05U050 Phone: +32(0)2 28 43510 patrizia.prode@europarl.europa.eu
Michal MARTELA Administrator Office: RMD 04J022 Phone: +32(0)2 28 43117 libe-secretariat@europarl.europa.eu	Eszter FAY Administrator Office: WIE 05U025 Phone: +32(0)2 28 31052 eszter.fay@europarl.europa.eu
Mariann SZAKÁL Assistant Office: RMD 04J038 Phone: +32(0)2 28 43669 libe-secretariat@europarl.europa.eu	Charlotte JANS BASTIN Assistant Office: WIE 05U020 Phone: +32(0)2 28 40979 charlotte.jansbastin@europarl.europa.eu