#### **Parliamentary Dimension**





#### **Summary conclusions by the Co-Chairs**

On 24 and 25 February 2019, the Romanian Parliament and the European Parliament (EP) jointly organised the Fourth Meeting of the Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group on Europol (JPSG) at the premises of the European Parliament in Bucharest. On 24 February 2019 and 25 February 2019, the meeting was co-Chaired by Ms Oana-Consuela FLOREA, Head of delegation of the Romanian Parliament to the JPSG Europol and Mr Claude MORAES, Chair of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs and Chair of the EP Delegation to the JPSG. Mr Claude MORAES was substituted on agenda points 8 and 9 by Mr Pál CSÁKY, Member of the European Parliament, on 25 February 2019.

The JPSG meeting was attended by over 67 Parliamentarians, representing 36 Parliaments/Chambers and 26 Member States as well as by the seven Members of the European Parliament delegation to the JPSG.

The meeting tackled a number of concrete issues directly following from Article 51 of Regulation EU(2016)0794 (Europol Regulation) as well as state of play and activity report on the Europol Travel Intelligence Centre (ETIC) and on the European Cybercrime Centre (EC3). Sir Julian KING, Commissioner for the Security Union, was invited to give a keynote speech.

At the opening of the meeting, the Co-Chairs underlined that the Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group is a unique form of parliamentary oversight of an EU agency. The Co-Chairs pointed to EU citizens' expectations to strengthen the area of freedom, security and justice. It is an area of shared competence between the EU and the Member States, where cooperation is important in order to increase exchange of information and counter threats of cross-border nature while preserving fundamental rights. EUROPOL has proven to play a key role in increasing security in the EU.

Co-Chairs reported to JPSG Members that a preparatory meeting of the Presidential Troika and a constituent meeting of the Working Group on the representation of Denmark took place on 24 February 2019. At the Troika meeting Denmark's representation to the JPSG, representation of the JPSG to the Europol Management Board meetings, preparation of the review of the JPSG Rules of Procedure, written and oral questions were discussed.

On Denmark's representation at JPSG, all partners greatly contributed. As a result, deadline for amendments to the Rules of Procedure on this respect should be presented to the JPSG Secretariat by 15 June 2019. The amendments would consist of an amendment to Article 2.2 and an adding a Protocol to the Rules of Procedure on the participation by the Kingdom of Denmark to the JPSG.

On the review of the JPSG Rules of Procedure, the deadline to table amendments was set for 4 September 2019.

Co-Chairs informed that they had received written questions, since September 2018, from 4 delegations and that one delegation had signalled an oral question to be presented this meeting. They reminded delegates that the RoP foresee that questions need to reflect the mandate of the JPSG as defined in Regulation (EU) 2016/794 (EUROPOL regulation). Hence, one question submitted by Mr Zmago Jelincic PLEMENITI (Slovenia) had to be declared inadmissible by the Co-Chairs as it does not mention EUROPOL nor does it reflect the mandate of the JPSG.

#### Reporting on EUROPOL activities from September 2018 to February 2019

EUROPOL Executive Director, Ms DE BOLLE, gave a presentation on EUROPOL's activities from the period between September 2018 and February 2019 and main challenges ahead (EUROPOL Strategy 2020+), including budgetary resources and perspectives. MS De BOLLE explained the EUROPOL Strategy 2020 +, highlighting in inter alia EUROPOL's role as EU criminal information hub and platform for European policing solutions. She explained also financial and budgetary perspectives and constrains.

Ms DE BOLLE gave updates about the 2019 budgetary procedure, the outcome of the EU budgetary procedure and impact on EUROPOL 2019 activities. The agency and Member States will jointly develop EU analysis standards in order to deliver analytical products and services with actionable intelligence. EUROPOL will develop an operational support model to support priority investigations against high-value targets. The agency will also further enhance its rapid response to all forms of serious organised crime, including migrant smuggling and illicit supply of drugs, cybercrime and terrorism. National authorities trusted EUROPOL, as proven by their increasing massive information input. The new trends and challenges required major investments in IT. The current proposal of the EU Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-2027 foresaw cuts for EUROPOL, which were already acknowledged by LIBE in its resolution. Ms DE BOLLE hoped that Member States would ultimately align the agency's resources to its needs and thanked to JPSG for its support on the budget.

The strategic cooperation with key EU agencies was further enhanced. For instance, Europol had a Joint Management Board meeting with Frontex, last October, and one with the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction in December. As of 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019, Europol has the chairmanship of the JHA Agencies network. A strategic paper on the Europol chairmanship priorities will be presented to parliaments after the elections.

The future challenges for Europol are the implementation of the "Interoperability agenda", focus on asset recovery and financial crimes as well as EUROPOL's external relations.

The Executive Director concluded her intervention mentioning the cooperation with the JPSG, notably the increasing number of interactions via visits of national delegations, questions answered, the participation of the JPSG observer to the Management Board's meetings. More delegation visits will be welcomed to explain EUROPOL's role to national

constituencies. The Executive Director praised the Europol rapporteur, Mr Diaz de Mera's constant support to the agency.

Eight JPSG delegates from the European Parliament, Cyprus House of Representatives, Hellenic Parliament Irish Houses of the Oireachtas, Bulgarian Parliament, Spanish Congress of Deputies and Dutch House of Representatives took the floor. Their questions concerned inter alia the future cooperation between EUROPOL and the United Kingdom, IRU actions, future working arrangements with EPPO — notably on financial crime, cooperation with FRONTEX on operations linked to the financial flows and human trafficking. The questions were also related to the creation of an European database on asylum seekers and migrants similar to the PNR, to the need for deepening cooperation with FRONTEX and EASO, the monitoring of a possible return to violence in Northern Ireland after Brexit; the support EUROPOL provides in case of cyberattacks, as the recent ones in the Baltic States and South-East Europe; the agency's actions to combat fake news ahead of the European elections, and finally, the needs for a budget that enables the agency to fulfil its tasks.

In her replies, the Executive Director reiterated the agency's commitments for inter-agency cooperation. On hybrid threats, she clarified that the support for Member States depends on the nature of threats in Member States and that EUROPOL had the tools to detect and link seemingly unrelated intelligences, i.e. between organized crime and terrorism. Ms DE BOLLE explained that currently the agency had no role on the EU elections but stood ready to contribute. A decrease in the agency's budget, as currently foreseen in the MFF proposal would lead to reprioritization. EUROPOL has a 100% budget implementation rate and there is a growing demand from Member States for support, which was reflected in figures.

### **EUROPOL Management Board activities from September 2018 to February 2019**

Mr Victor Wili APREUTESEI, Chairperson of Europol Management Board (MB) gave an extensive overview of the MB activities over the period October – December 2018. At its December meeting, the MB adopted new standards to improve the implementation and monitoring of internal control, in compliance with EP recommendations. The MB members have declared the interests which could prevent them from exercising their duties in an impartial and objective way.

The Chairperson stated that the JPSG was a key partner. He recalled a JPSG representative should be invited as a non-voting observer to attend two MB meetings per year.

The external dimension of Europol's action likely to increase. Cooperation with external partners was undertaken in full compliance with data protection principles and requirements, and with the determination of not processing any information obtained in obvious violation of human rights. External partners were prioritised on the basis of Member States' operational and strategic needs. The Commission has been given the mandate to negotiate international agreements with a number of Middle East and North-African (MENA) countries, such as Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Tunisia. The conclusion of such agreements, which will allow for the exchange of personal data with Europol, which can receive, but not transmit, is an indispensable condition for establishing operational cooperation and better fight against terrorism, migrant smuggling or drug trafficking. There is a relevant cooperation with the Western Balkans: deployment of Europol liaison officers to

Albania and Serbia and possible provision of financial support to Western Balkan countries in relation to EU crime priorities. Negotiations are ongoing on working arrangement with New Zealand.

The implementation of EU Interoperability and the new or reformed EU information systems, are important long-term projects for Europol, as completion of the Interoperability project in foreseen for 2023, or even later. The MB Working Group on Information Management would also be tightly associated to this work, as it offered national experts a forum for exchanging best practices. One main challenge would be to provide police officers on the ground with the appropriate technology to process and analyse a larger volume of digital data — both biographic and biometric and to transform it into "actionable information". Europol has also called for the first joint meeting between Europol and Frontex MBs; such joint meetings would be held on a regular basis and contacts were ongoing with eu-LISA.

At the informal JHA Council meeting of 7-8 February 2019, Europol was identified as a key actor in the management of digital data to keep up with the dynamics of the criminal environment. Therefore, technological solutions needed to be designed to ensure law enforcement authorities profit from continuously growing data flows and the knowledge acquired through Europol's pilot projects should be transformed into actual operational capabilities.

The Chairperson explained that the data flow from national authorities into EUROPOL databases remained uneven. Performances on information received from each Member State would be monitored every year, through a report to be drawn by EUROPOL in accordance with Article 7 of the EUROPOL Regulation. This report would help national parliaments to have a comparative picture of the Member States use of/contribution to EUROPOL.

Mr Tsvetan TSVETANOV, Chairman of the Committee on Internal Security and Public Order, 44th National Assembly of the Republic of Bulgaria, as JPSG representative reported from the meeting of the MB on 13<sup>th</sup> December in Vienna, Austria, in line with Article 5 of the JPSG Rules of Procedure.

Mr TSVETANOV welcomed the increasing scope of agenda items for which the attendance of the JPSG representative was possible, which he deemed to be a matter of mutual trust. His attendance at the MB was limited to the agenda items related to the future EUROPOL Strategy, the draft Programming Document 2020-2022, the EUROPOL budget for 2019, and the written questions to EUROPOL submitted by the JPSG.

Six JPSG delegates from the European, Swedish, German, Cypriote and Greek parliaments took the floor. Delegates asked for more details on interoperability and the introduction of a single search interface for accessing different information systems simultaneously, on the ongoing cooperation with Interpol, but also with FRONTEX, in light of the latter's mandate and gradual increase of manpower. Parliamentarians also inquired into cooperation with the Southeast European Law Enforcement Center (SELEC) and with third countries on third countries routes for trafficking and organised crime. Concerns were expressed on possible

transfers of personal data, regarding Turkey, with which negotiation are ongoing. Parliamentarians quizzed the Chair of the MB on the most efficient ways to remove terrorist content online, and on the cooperation with academia and research centers to bridge the Al gap.

In his replies, Mr APREUTESEI clarified the Commission's role in the negotiations with Turkey and listed the current cooperation of Turkey agreements with EUROPOL (2004 Strategic Arrangement, Turkish liaison officer established at EUROPOL, access to the Secure Information Exchange Network Application (SIENA)), which rule out any access to personal data. The MB Chair welcomed the approval of the principal of cooperation with FRONTEX, which needed to take into account their different mandates, budgets, and address the need of dealing with an increasing volume of data. He explained the evolution of the agency from an information hub to a knowledge hub, and dwelled on the EUROPOL Platform for experts. He highlighted the Romanian Presidency contribution to EU and national projects aimed at linking data islands and connecting national initiatives, in order to avoid overlappings and bring together a wide range of practitioners and experts.

Mr TSVETANOV stressed cooperation should be grounded on mutual trust, which was established through a gradual process, and explained that he participated in a substantial part of the discussions, and that he signed a confidentiality declaration. He detailed why attendance to the operational agenda items related to concrete police investigations was not possible.

#### Reporting back by the EU Data Protection Supervisor and EUROPOL Cooperation Board

In accordance with Article 43 of EUROPOL Regulation<sup>1</sup>, Mr Giovanni BUTTARELLI, European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS) explained in his video message that the supervision of EUROPOL is a core business for the EDPS, building on a good, trustful and satisfactory cooperation between EDPS and EUROPOL and that the cooperation is highly cooperative. He recalled that the principle of accountability is one of the core principles of the new data protection framework. In the last months the EDPS aimed at increasing awareness of data protection requirements at the middle management level, including EUROPOL's operational work. He pointed to the EDPS report of 8 May 2018, which contained details on his first inspection of EUROPOL, carried out in December 2017. The EDPS shared the results with national data protection authorities and EUROPOL Cooperation Board. The EDPS and EUROPOL had in addition seven bilateral meetings, discussing pending issues. Furthermore, he reported about a sincere cooperation with national data protection authorities explaining that the supervision of operational projects based on criminal investigation analysis projects is also one of the EPDS tasks. Mr BUTTARELLI emphasized to balance security needs and data protection requirements.

For the first time in the history of the JPSG, the EUROPOL Cooperation Board (ECB) appeared before the JPSG. Professor François PELLEGRINI, Chair of the EUROPOL Cooperation Board, gave an overview about actions and perspectives of the ECB. He explained that the involvement of national data protection authorities in the activities carried out by EUROPOL

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<sup>1</sup> Regulation (EU) 2016/794 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 May 2016 on the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (EUROPOL).

is essential, as provided for by Article 44 of EUROPOL Regulation. The vast majority of data collected and processed by the EU agency originates from the Member States. Article 45 EUROPOL Regulation established the EUROPOL Cooperation Board, which is composed of representatives of each Member State's national supervisory authority and one representative of the EDPS. Its role is to facilitate cooperation between EDPS and national supervisory authorities in the area of data protection involving EUROPOL. As an independent advisory body, it should deliver opinions, guidelines, recommendations and best practices on various issues requiring national involvement. The European Cooperation Board meets whenever necessary, at least twice a year. The first meeting took place on 1 June 2017.

Delegates from the European Parliament, Sweden, Netherlands and Cyprus took the floor. They emphasized that a close cooperation with EUROPOL is necessary but a certain degree of distance as well in order to ensure the independence of supervisors (EP). A Dutch delegate noted that the European Commission will evaluate the praxis of exchanging personal data, in particular with private parties, by 1 May 2019. A Cypriote delegate asked whether safeguards for data processing by block chains have been established.

Mr Wojciech WIEWIÓROWSKI, European Data Protection Assistant Protection Supervisor, responded for the EDPS. He confirmed that the cooperation with EUROPOL is very good. Access to all relevant data is ensured. Discussions are very open and inspections can be conducted were deemed necessary. He emphasized that the EDPS is an independent body. The cooperation between EUROPOL and private sector is one of the topics the EDPS will focus on in the next months. He stressed that the EDPS is also very much engaged in discussion and studies on "block chains". With regard to "interoperability" he underlined that "there is no way to fight with it since this is the natural development of future IT systems". Interoperability is not only a question of connectivity. EUROPOL's task as "service provider" for Member States and its competences need to be clarified between European Parliament and Council. Furthermore, he drew the attention to the implementation of the "Data Protection Police Directive". Some Member States made the mistake not allowing data transfers in the right way to those bodies, which are not exactly law enforcement bodies, such as the border guard bodies. This includes the use of "police data" and might create problems in the future. EUROPOL and OLAF are examples at the European level.

Professor PELLEGRINI replied that block chains are a broader issue, not only linked to the law enforcement sector. The block chain technology implements the what experts call a ledger defining the rules for data processing in line with data protection requirements, including the aspect of encryption. Interoperability and inter-connectivity have to be monitored in an accurate and proper way.

#### **EUROPOL Travel Intelligence Centre: State of Play and activity report**

Mr Wil VAN GEMERT, Deputy Executive Director for Operations at EUROPOL, reported about EUROPOL Travel Intelligence Centre (ETIC) to be created in EUROPOL. In line with the EUROPOL Programming Document 2018-2020, EUROPOL shall establish a dedicated capability within EUROPOL to support Member States in the operational and strategic use of travel related information and intelligence stemming from Passenger name record (PNR), Advance Passenger Information (API) and ETIAS. The EUROPOL Travel Intelligence Centre ('ETIC') should be set up in 2019, as a dedicated capability within the EU agency. ETIC will be

able to deliver specific operational and strategic products and services, which will support Member States.

Mr VAN GEMERT gave an overview of activities of EUROPOL related to creation of ETIC. This activity comes from new responsibilities in the new EUROPOL regulation. Its aim of contributing to strengthening of the border management is more or less a political response to migration crisis and a series of terrorist attacks in Europe. As result of these challenges, there was a need to minimise conflicting identity data in different systems and the use of false identities. It is also related to the interoperability package. EUROPOL has possibilities to contribute to ETIAS Watchlist, which has impact on EUROPOL role. At the same time, PNR directive allows EUROPOL to request information about suspects from Member States. Therefore, there is the shift of EUROPOL's focus to aspects related to the border management and the travel intelligence, which strengthened also cooperation with customs organisations, also with regard to smuggling of commodities.

He underlined that EUROPOL can offer criminal information and intelligence that allows for better-informed decisions in the border management. EUROPOL can also benefit from new legal possibilities to obtain travel information about suspects to enrich its analytical products towards Member States. Mr VAN GEMERT gave some examples of possible use of such information. The information refers to data about persons, but also cargo data. For the border management, the use of the travel information analysis can achieve more relevant screening rules for ETIAS applications, targeting rules for PNR data and risk indicators for cargo. However, EUROPOL will not do the targeting itself. EUROPOL will support the Member States, and therefore invited partners like FRONTEX, eu-LISA, Member States and Commission to suggest how EUROPOL could best develop its capabilities in this field. This led to the drafting of a vision on the future direction. It was complemented by a blueprint, specifying the future products and services in further detail and how they could be incorporated within the organisation. The set has been completed by a roadmap, suggesting the gradual building of these capabilities over time until 2024.

Challenges expected in the future include huge amount of incoming data, data protection challenges, need of further resources and the use of artificial intelligence.

In the discussion, delegates from the Parliaments of the Netherlands, Croatia, Greece and Poland took the floor. The topics included sale of golden visas and its effects on security, relations with the countries of the Western Balkans, the fight against radicalisation and more details about the future functioning of ETIC. The setting up of ETIC depends on finalisation of the relevant EU legislation.

# European Cybercrime Centre (EC3): State of play and activity report including support against counterfeiting of non-cash means of payment, monitoring and countering dark web crimes

In his address, Mr Will VAN GEMERT, Deputy Executive Director for Operations at Europol, presented the activities of the centre, which is one of the biggest benefits of EUROPOL activity. EUROPOL has three big analytical centres: on organised crime, on terrorism and the five years old centre on cybercrime. The main latest operational activities of the centre, dealt with cryptocurrency theft, shutdown of xDedic Marketplace, went after users of the biggest DDoS for hire website and actions against sale of counterfeited banknotes on the

internet. He also presented the IOCTA – Internet Organised Crime Threat Assessment, which is EUROPOL's EC3's flagship annual strategic assessment and 2018 was its fifth edition. According to it, one of the current threats in the area of cybercrime is the cryptojacking – secret mining of cryptocurrencies by infected computers.

EUROPOL does as well many activities in the field of encryption, including training the law enforcement agencies of Member States and the development of a third generation decryption platform in collaboration with the JRC in order to maximise the computing power for this task.

Recurring activities of EUROPOL in the area of cybersecurity include its fight against money mulling and identification of victims as part of the Victims Identification Taskforce, where experts from all over the world gather to identify the children victims of sexual exploitation and abuse.

As Mr VAN GEMERT explained, innovation is very important for the future. EUROPOL is therefore trying to come up with new activities to help the Member States, cooperation with partners is important in this regard and looking for new stakeholders as well — as an example, in the past, very useful in investigations was cooperation with social networks Reddit and Bellingcat users.

In the discussion, representatives of the Parliaments of France, the Netherlands and Greece intervened. The topics included cooperation across Europe as a prerequisite to fight against cyber threats, evidence gathering by intelligence services in addition to law enforcement and what rules are used to deal with such evidence, and counterfeiting of non-cash means of payments. Concerning the use of evidence and rules governing them, Member States act according to their rule of law.

#### Keynote speech by Sir Julian KING, Commissioner for the Security Union

The Commissioner for Security Union, Sir Julian KING presented in his speech the progress on Security Union and the role of EUROPOL within the Security Union. He also spoke about the role of the JPSG. Commissioner KING stressed that the JPSG is already a well established body and has to continue its work with EUROPOL towards the common goal of keeping citizens safe. Scrutiny will become even more important as the Agency continues to grow. It is growing because we are facing increasingly challenging threat environment, the threat being composed mainly of organised crime, continued terrorist threat and continuously increasing cyber and cyber-enabled threat. The role of the Commission is to help in this process the Agency and ultimately the Member States to face these threats. Commissioner explained in more detail the work of EUROPOL in preventing and countering radicalisation both online and offline, work in the area of exchange of information, such as PNR information, travel intelligence, interoperability, ETIAS watch list, financial information, and the work in the area of countering CBRN threat and the use of explosives.

The challenge from cyber and cyber-enabled threats evolved fast over the recent period, with big economic attacks but also politically motivated attacks against democratic institutions, processes and elections. EUROPOL has a central role in the fight against cybercrime and became a real hub for criminal information and intelligence in the field.

Concerning external dimension, EU faces the same challenges as our neighbours, which requires a lot of cooperation on exporting security to neighbourhood. Also other agencies contribute to this cooperation, mainly EUROJUST, CEPOL and cyber agencies. Commission will continue its support to the EUROPOL and to the Member States by continuing its work in these crucial fields.

In the ensuing discussion, representatives of the Parliaments of Ireland, Cyprus and the European Parliament posed questions. The areas discussed involved security threats in case of hard Brexit, possible extension of EPPO's competence to the terrorist crimes and the role of EUROPOL in the access to financial information.

Concerning Brexit, the Commissioner replied that he was acutely conscious of challenges and the need to maintain with the UK as close cooperation as possible on security. These arrangements should include EUROPOL as well.

## Designation of the JPSG representative to the meetings of the EUROPOL Management Board

As Co-Chair, Ms FLOREA introduced the issue of the designation of the JPSG representative to the EUROPOL Management Board. According to Article 14, paragraph 4 of the EUROPOL Regulation, the Management Board may invite any person whose opinion may be relevant for the discussion, including, where appropriate, a representative of the JPSG to attend its meeting as a non-voting observer. There are no detailed rules in the JPSG Rules of Procedure regarding the nomination procedure of the JPSG representative. During the Bulgarian Presidency, Mr TSVETANOV, JPSG Co-Chair from Bulgaria, attended the EUROPOL Management Board meeting. In the meeting of the JPSG in September 2018 in Brussels, it was agreed to extend the term of office for Mr TSVETANOV as the JPSG representative to the EUROPOL Management Board as a non-voting observer until 25 February 2019, meaning until the meeting in Bucharest. Consequently, the JPSG had to nominate new representative.

The position of Romania was to build on the rotation principle and with change of Presidency every six months there would be a new observer from the Presidency Parliament. Equality between Member States was taken into consideration, from which emerged the principle of 6-month rotation. This solution was considered to be equitable and clear, providing all JPSG members the opportunity to participate at the MB meetings, while also offering predictability for the future.

As Co-Chair, Mr Pál CSÁKY, Member of the European Parliament's Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs, explained that within the JPSG, there are different positions on this issue. European Parliament's proposal, which was adopted by all political groups in the European Parliament, was to extend the mandate of Mr TSVETANOV for at least another year, as he was able to build an important level of trust with the Members of the Management Board and at the same time, he has always diligently informed the JPSG. As a compromise, the European Parliament could agree to appoint Mr TSVETANOV until September to ensure continuity. However, the JPSG needs consensus to decide, and there was no consensus on the issue.

Several delegations, such as the Hungarian and the Spanish, expressed their views on the issue before leaving the JPSG meeting, and the Swedish delegation provided a written statement. In the discussion on this point on the agenda, more delegations intervened: representatives of the Parliaments of Germany, Croatia, Portugal, Czech Republic, Cyprus, the Netherlands, Bulgaria, France, Greece and Members of the European Parliament delegation. The main points of discussion were whether the representative should come from the Presidency country and what should be the rotation period – six months, one year, eighteen months or even five years. The conclusion reached was that as there had been no possibility to reach consensus, the discussion on the point has been interrupted, point on the agenda would continue to be debated in the Brussels JPSG meeting in September 2019, and the decision on this point is postponed with possibly addressing this issue as part of the change of the Rules of Procedure. In the meantime, co-chairs will represent the JPSG towards EUROPOL and the Management Board.

Conclusions and closing remarks of the meeting by the JPSG Co-Chairs Mr Pál CSÁKY, Member of the European Parliament's Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs and Ms Oana-Consuela FLOREA, Head of delegation of the Romanian Parliament to the JPSG EUROPOL

Co-Chairs concluded that the next JPSG meeting will take place in Brussels on 23-24 September 2019 and will be organised jointly by the European Parliament and the Parliament of Finland.

In the September meeting, revised Rules of Procedure of the JPSG will be discussed and possibly adopted, which could include a redefinition of the participation of Denmark to the JPSG.

A deadline for sending proposed amendments to the Rules of Procedure was set, starting on 25 February until 4 September 2019. Delegates are requested to send their suggested amendments in writing to the JPSG Secretariat.

The revision of the Rules of Procedure will have to consider the need to allow the JPSG to perform political scrutiny of EUROPOL even more efficiently.