

**LIBE/SEDE\_OJ2015/0616**

# **DRAFT PROGRAMME**

## **Joint hearing**

# **Implementation of the Solidarity Clause**

**Tuesday 16 June 2015, 16.30 - 18.30**

**Brussels**

**Room: A1 E-2**

## ***Introduction***

*The Solidarity Clause, introduced by Article 222 of the Lisbon Treaty, aims at enabling the Union and its Member States to act jointly in the face of disasters, emergencies, crises or terrorist attacks and to provide assistance to one another.*

### *Article 222 TFEU*

*1. The Union and its Member States shall act jointly in a spirit of solidarity if a Member State is the object of a terrorist attack or the victim of a natural or man-made disaster. The Union shall mobilise all the instruments at its disposal, including the military resources made available by the Member States, to:*

*(a)- prevent the terrorist threat in the territory of the Member States;*

*- protect democratic institutions and the civilian population from any terrorist attack;*

*- assist a Member State in its territory, at the request of its political authorities, in the event of a terrorist attack;*

*(b) assist a Member State in its territory, at the request of its political authorities, in the event of a natural or man-made disaster.*

*2. Should a Member State be the object of a terrorist attack or the victim of a natural or man-made disaster, the other Member States shall assist it at the request of its political authorities. To that end, the Member States shall coordinate between themselves in the Council.*

*3. The arrangements for the implementation by the Union of the solidarity clause shall be defined by a decision adopted by the Council acting on a joint proposal by the Commission and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy. The Council shall act in accordance with Article 31(1) of the Treaty on European Union where this decision has defence implications. The European Parliament shall be informed.*

*For the purposes of this paragraph and without prejudice to Article 240, the Council shall be assisted by the Political and Security Committee with the support of the structures developed in the context of the common security and defence policy and by the Committee referred to in Article 71; the two committees shall, if necessary, submit joint opinions.*

*4. The European Council shall regularly assess the threats facing the Union in order to enable the Union and its Member States to take effective action.*

*On 24 June 2014, the Council adopted a Decision on the arrangements for the implementation by the Union of the solidarity clause (2014/415/EU)*

*This Hearing will look at the practical implementation of the Solidarity Clause, including the set-up and actual use of the arrangements set out in the 2014 Council Decision regarding the invocation of the solidarity clause, the response arrangements at Union level and Union-level threat assessments. Furthermore, the Hearing will look at the way ahead and what further steps could be taken to implement the Solidarity Clause in order to better jointly address the threats posed by terrorist attacks and natural or man-made disasters.*

## Order of business

**OPENING REMARKS** by **Claude MORAES**, Chair of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs and **Anna Elżbieta FOTYGA**, Chair of the Sub Committee on Security and Defence and

16.30 - 16.40 Uldis MIKUTS, Chair of the Friends of the Presidency Group on the EU Integrated Political Crisis Response arrangements and the Solidarity Clause Implementation, Latvian Presidency

16.40 - 16.50 Hans DAS, Civil Protection Policy, Prevention, Preparedness and Disaster Risk Reduction, Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (DG ECHO), European Commission

16.50 - 17.00 Niels BRACKE, EU Intelligence Analysis Centre (IntCen), European External Action Service

17.00 - 17.10 Roderick PARKES, The Swedish Institute of International Affairs

17.10 - 18.25 **Questions & Answers**

18.25 - 18.30 Closing remarks by **Claude MORAES** and **Anna Elżbieta FOTYGA**