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DRAFT AGENDA

JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING

European Parliament - National Parliaments

Future Priorities in the field of Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

Wednesday 19 March 2014, 9.00 – 18.30

European Parliament, Brussels

Room: József Antall (JAN) 2Q2

Organised with the support of the Directorate for Relations with
National Parliaments

1. General introduction

The period of implementation of "The Stockholm Programme - an open and secure Europe serving and protecting citizens" will end by 2014 and discussions as to the post-Stockholm agenda for the Area of Freedom, Security and Justice are currently taking place.

Following the Meeting of the Chairpersons of the Committees on Justice and Home Affairs of EU Parliaments, which was held in Athens on February 17, 2014 this joint committee meeting is intended to provide a forum for the exchange of views on the future priorities on the basis of the progress made under the Stockholm Programme. As such it should contribute to the definition of parliamentary priorities ahead of the June 2014 European Council which plans to define strategic guidelines for legislative and operational planning in the area of freedom, security and justice (pursuant to Article 68 TFEU). In this context it will also provide the occasion to assess the two communications - one on home affairs and one on justice affairs - that the Commission presented in March 2014¹.

The Lisbon Treaty offers enhanced possibilities of involving national Parliaments in the legislative and other work undertaken in the field of civil liberties, justice and home affairs, notably by reference to Articles 69, 70, 71 and 85 TFEU, as well as the Protocol No 1 on the role of national Parliaments in the European Union.

2. Background documents

All relevant background documents are available on the [JCM dedicated webpage](#).

¹ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions, "The EU Justice Agenda for 2020- Strengthening Trust, Mobility and Growth within the Union", COM (2014) 144 final, Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions, "An open and secure Europe: Making it happen", COM (2014) 154 final

Order of business

Wednesday, 19 March 2014

09.00 - 09.10 **Opening by Juan Fernando LÓPEZ AGUILAR**, Chair of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs of the European Parliament

Opening by Kyriakos VIRVIDAKIS, Chair of the Standing Committee on Public Administration, Public Order and Justice of the Hellenic Parliament

09.10- 11.00	SESSION I - Developing an EU Internal Security Strategy and enhancing police cooperation
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What future for Europol?

The fight against cross-border serious and organised crime can only be carried out effectively in the EU through close cooperation between national law enforcement authorities. Amongst the different cooperation and information exchange mechanisms, Europol plays a central role as an information hub. In March 2013, the Commission proposed a new legal framework for Europol¹, making the agency more flexible in processing information, with more rigorous data protection requirements, and placed it under the clear parliamentary scrutiny of the European Parliament together with national Parliaments. In February 2014, the European Parliament adopted its position on the proposed Europol Regulation², strengthening the data protection safeguards, spelling out in greater detail the joint parliamentary scrutiny by the European Parliament and the national Parliaments, rejecting the proposed merger between Europol and CEPOL, and clarifying the cooperation and exchange of information between Member States, third countries and Europol.

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

Speakers:

09.10 - 09.20 **Agustín DÍAZ DE MERA GARCÍA-CONSUEGRA**, MEP, Rapporteur on the Europol draft Regulation

09.20 - 09.30 **José LÓPEZ GARRIDO**, Member of the Justice Committee of the Congress of Deputies, and Member of the Joint Committee for EU Affairs in the Cortes Generales

¹ Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation and Training (Europol) and repealing Decisions 2009/371/JHA and 2005/681/JHA, COM (2013)0173 final

² P7_TA-PROV(2014)0121

09.30 - 09.40 **Rob WAINWRIGHT**, Director of Europol
09.40- 11.00 Debate with national Parliamentarians and MEPs

11.00 - 12.30	SESSION II - Developing the EU's immigration and asylum policy <i>How to deal with the on-going crisis in the Mediterranean?</i>
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Following the tragic events off Lampedusa, a Task Force Mediterranean has been set up, which, according to the relevant Commission Communication aims at an integrated approach regarding migratory flows in the Mediterranean, focusing on cooperation with third countries, regional protection, resettlement and reinforced legal avenues to Europe, fighting against trafficking, smuggling and organised crime, reinforced border surveillance, and finally assistance and solidarity with Member States dealing with high migration pressure. The European Parliament in a Resolution adopted in October 2013¹ welcomed the intention to establish the Task Force. In legislative terms an important step was the agreement reached on the draft Regulation establishing rules for the surveillance of the external sea borders in the context of operational cooperation coordinated by Frontex at the External Borders of the Member States.

Moderator: **Kyriakos VIRVIDAKIS**, Chair of the Standing Committee on Public Administration, Public Order and Justice of the Hellenic Parliament

Speakers:

11.00 - 11.10 Introductory remarks by **Miltiadis VARVITSIOTIS**, Minister of Mercantile Marine, Hellenic Republic
11.10 - 11.20 **Carlos COEHLO**, MEP, Rapporteur on the draft Regulation establishing rules for the surveillance of the external sea borders in the context of operational cooperation coordinated by Frontex at the External Borders of the Members States
11.20 - 11.30 **Eugenio AMBROSI**, International Organisation for Migration
11.30 - 12.30 Debate with national Parliamentarians and MEPs

12.30 Seated lunch reception (by invitation only)

¹ European Parliament resolution of 23 October 2013 on migratory flows in the Mediterranean, with particular attention to the tragic events off Lampedusa (2013/2827(RSP))

The European Commission adopted on 11 March two communications on future priorities in the home affairs and justice fields.

Moderators:	Juan Fernando LÓPEZ AGUILAR and Kyriakos VIRVIDAKIS
15.00 - 15.15	European Commission proposals for the post-Stockholm period in the area of justice: Viviane REDING, Vice-President of the Commission
15.15 - 15.45	Q&A session
15.45 - 16.00	European Commission proposals for the post-Stockholm period in the area of home affairs: Cecilia MALMSTRÖM, Commissioner in charge of Home Affairs
16.00- 16.30	Q&A session

16.30 - 17.30	SESSION III - Fundamental rights for EU citizens in the digital era <i>Reinforcing data protection and shielding EU citizens against electronic mass surveillance</i>
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At the beginning of 2012 the Commission had presented the proposals of the data protection package consisting of a draft Regulation¹ and a draft Directive². The LIBE committee voted its position and a mandate to enter into negotiations with the Council in view of a first reading agreement on 21 October 2013³. Negotiations could, however, not yet start as Member States in Council could not yet agree on a position. On 12 March 2014 the Parliament voted its first reading position in plenary with view to starting negotiations with the Council as soon as the latter has adopted its negotiating mandate⁴.

The European Parliament resolution of 4 July 2013 on the US National Security Agency surveillance programme, surveillance bodies in various Member States and their impact on

¹ Proposal for a Regulation on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data (General Data Protection Regulation), COM(2012)0011

² Proposal for a Directive on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by competent authorities for the purposes of prevention, investigation, detection or prosecution of criminal offences or the execution of criminal penalties, and the free movement of such data, COM(2012)0010

³ A7- 0402/2013, A7- 0403/2013.

⁴ European Parliament legislative resolutions of 12 March 2014 on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data (General Data Protection Regulation) ([2012/0011\(COD\)](#)) and on the proposal for a directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by competent authorities for the purposes of prevention, investigation, detection or prosecution of criminal offences or the execution of criminal penalties, and the free movement of such data ([2012/0010\(COD\)](#))

EU citizens' privacy mandated the LIBE Committee to conduct an in-depth inquiry into the matter also in collaboration with national parliaments. The work of the inquiry led to a number of recommendations¹ and the session could serve to discuss parliamentary priorities of the coming years in this field.

Moderator: **Juan Fernando LÓPEZ AGUILAR/ Kyriakos VIRVIDAKIS**

Speakers:

16.30 - 16.45 **Jan ALBRECHT** MEP, Rapporteur on the draft data protection Regulation
Claude MORAES MEP, Rapporteur of the LIBE Inquiry on "Electronic mass surveillance of EU citizens"
16.45 - 16.55 **Karl SIGFRID**, Member of the Committee on the Constitution of the Swedish Riksdagen
16.55 - 17.30 Debate with national Parliamentarians and MEPs

17.30 - 18.25	SESSION IV - Developing a criminal justice area under the Lisbon Treaty <i>Focus on the European Public Prosecutor's Office and judicial cooperation instruments in criminal matters</i>
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In July 2013 the Commission presented a new draft Regulation on the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO)², along with a draft Regulation on Eurojust³, the two being closely linked. According to the Commission, the creation of EPPO aims at an enhanced fight against crime affecting the EU budget, and thus savings millions of euros at times of fiscal consolidation. National Parliaments have, through their reasoned opinions, raised a 'yellow card' to this Commission proposal at the end of 2013, the Commission has, however, decided not to withdraw the proposal. Since Art. 86 TFEU, the legal basis for the EPPO Regulation, provides for a special legislative procedure with the consent of the European Parliament only at the end of the negotiations in the Council, the Parliament has decided to draw up an interim report containing recommendations for modification of the proposal⁴. As to the European Arrest Warrant, cornerstone of mutual recognition of judicial decisions in criminal matters, the European Parliament adopted a Resolution on 27 February 2014⁵, calling the European Commission to come up within a year with legislative proposals to

¹ European Parliament resolution of 12 March 2014 on the US NSA surveillance programme, surveillance bodies in various Member States and their impact on EU citizens' fundamental rights and on transatlantic cooperation in Justice and Home Affairs (2013/2188 (INI))

² Proposal for a Council Regulation on the establishment of the European Public Prosecutor's Office, COM (2013)0534 final

³ Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation (Eurojust), COM (2013)0535 final

⁴ European Parliament resolution of 12 March 2014 on the proposal for a Council regulation on the establishment of the European Public Prosecutor's Office (interim report) (2013/0255 (APP))

⁵ European Parliament resolution of 27 February 2014 with recommendations to the Commission on the review of the European Arrest Warrant (2013/2109(INL))

address the identified gaps and weaknesses.

Moderator: **Juan Fernando LÓPEZ AGUILAR/ Kyriakos VIRVIDAKIS**

Speakers:

17.30 - 17.40 **Salvatore IACOLINO** MEP, Rapporteur on the draft EPPO Regulation

Sarah LUDFORD MEP, Rapporteur on the review of the European Arrest Warrant (legislative initiative)

17.40 - 17.50 **Nicolae-Ciprian NICA**, Vice-Chair of the Committee for Legal Matters, Discipline and Immunities of the Romanian Chamber of Deputies

17.50 - 18.25 Debate with national Parliamentarians and MEPs

18.25 - 18.30 Summary of the conclusions of the meeting by Juan Fernando LÓPEZ AGUILAR and Kyriakos VIRVIDAKIS

ANNEX

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR THOSE WISHING TO ATTEND THE MEETING

All participants from national Parliaments (Members, officials and Brussels-based representatives) need to complete the online registration form for the event at the following web address:

http://www.opinio.europarl.europa.eu/opinio/s?s=secured_jcm_priorities

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) before **13 March 2014 at noon**. It is essential to provide us with your **LAST NAME, First name, date of birth, nationality, type of ID (passport, identity card, driving licence, etc.), number of ID, address and company/institution/organisation**. Without this information, the Security Service will not provide entry passes.¹

PRACTICAL GUIDELINES FOR THE DEBATE

- During the discussion, so as to make it possible for the highest number of parliamentarians to intervene, speaking time of speakers will be limited to **ten minutes** and speaking time of other participants to **two minutes** per contribution or 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.

- 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 dedicated webpage of the event

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/jcm-JHApriorities>

and at the Events section of the LIBE Committee pages

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/committees/en/libe/events.html#menuzone>

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

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¹ The processing of personal data is subject to Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 of 18 December 2001 (OJ.L 8 12.1.2001, p. 1)

