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OUTCOME OF THE COUNCIL MEETING

3376th Council meeting

Justice and Home Affairs

Home Affairs issues

Brussels, 12 March 2015

President **Rihards Kozlovskis**
Minister for the Interior

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- Where declarations, conclusions or resolutions have been formally adopted by the Council, this is indicated in the heading for the item concerned and the text is placed between quotation marks.
- Documents for which references are given in the text are available on the Council's Internet site (<http://www.consilium.europa.eu>).
- Acts adopted with statements for the Council minutes which may be released to the public are indicated by an asterisk; these statements are available on the Council's Internet site or may be obtained from the Press Office.

ITEMS DEBATED

Fight against terrorism

The Council discussed the implementation of the measures contained in the recent counter-terrorism statements issued after the latest terrorist attacks in Europe. Ministers focused their discussion on areas where results can be achieved in the coming months.

Regarding the reinforced application of the Schengen Framework, Ministers agreed to implement systematic checks on documents and persons based on a risk assessment at the external borders without delay but no later than June 2015.

Regarding the issue of internet content promoting terrorism or violent extremism, Ministers agreed on the expediency of Europol taking on additional responsibility on this field as early as possible and have asked the Agency to set up an EU Internet Referral Unit which should be operational by July 2015.

The Council also invited the Commission to propose ways on how to fight against illicit trafficking of firearms and, together with Europol, on how to enhance information exchange and operational cooperation on this phenomenon.

Ministers took note of information from the EU Counter-terrorism coordinator and the European Commission on the progress achieved in the implementation of the measures mentioned in the European Council Statement and in the Riga Joint Statement. They stressed the importance of the Council making progress in all these areas and agreed to return to all these issues at their next meeting, with a view to reporting to the European Council in June 2015.

Finally, the Council agreed to engage actively with the European Parliament in order to achieve decisive progress in the coming months on a strong and effective EU PNR Directive with solid data protection safeguards.

For more information:

[Statement of 12 February by the Members of the European Council](#)

[Riga Joint Statement of 29 January by the Ministers of Justice and Home Affairs of the EU](#)

[Fight against terrorism: Stock taking of actions and way forward \(February 2015\)](#)

[Response to foreign fighters and recent terrorist attacks in Europe](#)

Migratory pressures: trends and further actions

Ministers discussed how to address the recent developments on migratory pressures that the EU is facing and what immediate actions can be taken to respond to the most acute issues.

The Council took note of the information provided by the Commission and welcomed the progress achieved so far in the implementation of the operational actions identified by the Task Force Mediterranean (TFM) and by the Council Conclusions of 10 October.

It also took note that the recent developments show that the EU needs to reinforce its action as migratory pressures continue to affect not only the Mediterranean Region but also the land borders in the Western Balkans Region.

Ministers agreed to strengthen surveillance at external borders and to reinforce the resources and the operational capacities of Frontex. They also stressed that, in order to protect migrants and save their lives, the fight against the criminal networks of smugglers and traffickers should remain a priority. The reinforcement of cooperation with third countries remains essential for the efficient management of migratory flows.

Ministers invited the Commission and the EEAS to continue informing the Council on the implementation of the relevant actions in order to deal with the main challenges related to asylum and migration.

More information:

[Illegal migration](#)

Other business

Under other business, the Council was informed about the state of play of a number of legislative proposals, including:

- the directive on the conditions of entry and residence of third-country nationals for the purposes of research, studies, pupil exchange, remunerated and unremunerated training, voluntary service and au pairing (Recast);
- the regulation amending regulation 604/2013 as regards determining the member state responsible for examining the application for international protection of unaccompanied minors with no family member, sibling or relative legally present in a member state.
- the regulation establishing a European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Training (Cepol), repealing and replacing the Council decision 2005/681/JHA.

The Council took note of [information from the Commission on the PNR legislation](#) adopted by Mexico and Argentina asking for the transfer of PNR data from the EU, as requested by the Spanish delegation.

MIXED COMMITTEE

Migratory pressures: trends and further actions

The committee discussed how to address the recent developments on migratory pressures that the EU is facing and what immediate actions can be taken to respond to the most acute issues.

See item above

Greek Road Map on Asylum for 2015

The Greek minister informed the committee about the new road map on asylum for 2015. This road map is a follow up to the revised Action Plan on Asylum and Migration Management which ended 31 December 2014.

The Council welcomed the plans of the Greek government to make the Greek asylum and migration system sustainable and up to the standards of the European Union.

Other business

Under other business, the committee was informed about the state of play of the draft 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.

OTHER ITEMS APPROVED

JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS

CEPOL Work Programme 2015

The Council approved the European Police College's (CEPOL) Work Programme 2015 ([6201/15](#)) and forward it to the European Parliament and the Commission for information.

Insolvency proceedings

The Council adopted its position at first reading with a view to the adoption of a regulation on insolvency proceedings (see [press release](#)).

Disaster management

The Council adopted [conclusions](#) on disability-inclusive disaster management.

Access to law

The Council endorsed a report on access to law ([5510/15](#)), that summarises the achievements and different projects launched in the field of e-Law.

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On 12 March 2015, the Council approved:

- the reply to confirmatory application No 03/c/01/15 (doc. 5673/15)
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