



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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LIMITE

JAI 161

NOTE

From : Presidency
To : Council

Subject : Conclusions of the sub-workgroup EUCPN JAI 82, Ostend, Belgium,
27 November 2001

Delegations will find attached the conclusions of the above mentioned meeting.

Conclusions of the sub-workgroup EUCPN JAI 82

This work group, initiated by the Belgian Presidency and with participation of Finland and the European Commission, held its first working session in Ostend on the 27th of November 2001. The Member States Sweden, Spain, Portugal and Austria have shown interest in participation, but couldn't be present due to various circumstances. Other Member States who take interest in joining this group after reading the document are invited to do so.

CONCLUSIONS

It is unanimously agreed that the Network can ameliorate the functioning and exchange of best practices in the field of prevention of violence during mass-events and high level meetings. Preventive measures are necessary and every action which diminishes the need for repression should be encouraged. The actual development of certain behaviour during political demonstrations could be dangerous for the EU-collaboration in general. Main objective should be the protection of the area of justice and freedom, and as such this should be the main track of all activities within this work group.

The Council decision on the creation of the Network indicated that the Council might request the EUCPN to tackle certain issues, and the work programme of EUCPN stated that visible results should be obtained within the next 18 months. This working group will allow to answer to what is stated above and in the meantime it will be working on the priorities of urban and juvenile delinquency.

The exposés during this first session showed that we should not limit ourselves to the best practices in establishing dialogues with police and demonstrators. These dialogues should be extended to all parties concerned as decision makers, groups of activists and organisers of demonstrations, social prevention workers and the inhabitants of the meeting place. Social and urban planning and policy should also be taken into consideration.

In order to organise and plan the future work of this work group, the following subjects will be taken into account:

- the different cultures in the different EU Member States;
- the culture of activists;
- youth culture and especially riot-culture;
- communication strategy of policy makers;
- training and equipment of prevention workers and services of public order;
- the exact role and contribution of the prevention services, in particular in relation with the role and the contribution of the police services;
- collaboration with the local authorities;
- good hosting and guidance of all participants and involved parties, be it official delegates, demonstrators or local inhabitants;
- responsabilising all parties concerned;
- role and ethics of the media;
- ...

This sub workgroup should examine the possibility for Hippocrates funded studies or pilot prevention projects.

It was stated that there is a need of common definitions as well in the field of prevention as in the field of public order.

In order to avoid duplication of the work done in other expert meetings, for example the expert meeting by the Chiefs of Police, exchange of information is necessary and will be assured.

Future planning: a next meeting on the items of **‘youth culture and riot culture’** and **‘communication strategy towards mass events’** will be held within three months following this date.

The report of the advancements of the work done by the work group and eventual recommendations will be submitted by the end of 2002 so that it can be taken into account for the national report to the national representatives.

In order to be more effective it is desirable that the work and the meetings of this sub workgroup is open to all experts that are being forwarded by the national representatives.

The Belgian Presidency by the person of the Minister of Interior and the Network national representatives will be informed on the outcome and further developments of this work group.
