



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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NOTE

from : Presidency
to : Police Cooperation Working Party

Nos prev. docs: 10916/01 JAI 82, 11572/01 ENFOPOL 90

Subject: Security handbook for European Councils and other similar events

The Police Cooperation Working Party received a mandate from the Article 36 Committee to draw up, in line with the proposal drawn up by the EU Police Chiefs Operational Task Force, a handbook for the use of police authorities and services at meetings of the European Council and other similar events.

The reference framework for fulfilling the mandate received is set out in the conclusions adopted by the Council and the representatives of the Governments of the Member States on 13 July 2001 on security at meetings of the European Council and other comparable events (10916/01 JAI 82).

The work conducted previously by the Police Cooperation Working Party already makes it possible, without specifying its operational capacity, gradually to sketch out the broad lines of the future Security handbook for European Councils, which could be structured as follows:

SECURITY HANDBOOK FOR EUROPEAN COUNCILS

I. INTRODUCTION

- I.1. NECESSITY
- I.2. LEGAL BASES
- I.3. PRIOR CONSIDERATIONS
- I.4. GUARANTEE OF LEGITIMATE DEMONSTRATIONS

II. PERMANENT CONTACT POINTS

- II.1. DESIGNATION
- II.2. TASKS
- II.3. MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS
- II.4. UPDATING OF INFORMATION

III. INFORMATION EXCHANGES

- III.1. PRIOR TO THE EVENT: RISK ANALYSIS
- III.2. SUBSEQUENT TO THE EVENT: EVALUATION OF ACTIVITIES

IV. OPERATIONAL COOPERATION

- IV.1. CONTACT POINTS
- IV.2. TEAMS OF LIAISON OFFICERS
- IV.3. OPERATIONAL GROUP OF HEADS OF SECURITY AND LAW AND ORDER
- IV.4. EUROPOL
- IV.5. OPERATIONAL SUPPORT IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN
- IV.6. TRAINING AND EQUIPMENT

V. MEASURES RELATING TO THE CROSSING OF BORDERS

VI. RELATIONS WITH THE MEDIA AND GROUPS CONCERNED

VII. OUTLINE OF WORK/STRATEGIC PLAN

VIII. EVALUATION AND MONITORING

IX. ANNEXES

IX.1. RISK ANALYSIS

IX.2. EVALUATION REPORT

IX.3. COORDINATION GROUP

IX.4. REQUEST FOR SUPPORT OFFICIALS

I. INTRODUCTION

I.1. NECESSITY

Adequate information exchange between Member States and close international contact prior to such events considerably improve the security arrangements for these.

Element of practical support for the Member States' police chiefs responsible for guaranteeing security at European Councils and similar events.

I.2. LEGAL BASES

- Protocol integrating the Schengen acquis into the framework of the European Union
- Joint Action of 26 May 1997 with regard to cooperation on law and order and security
- 10916/01 JAI 82 relating to the conclusions of the JHA Council on security at meetings of the European Council and similar events
- Set of measures for improving security at meetings of the European Council and similar events (11572/01 LIMITE ENFOPOL 90)

I.3. PRIOR CONSIDERATIONS

The Member State hosting the event is responsible for maintaining law and order and security for meetings of the European Council and similar events.

The handbook should be regarded as an evolving instrument to be amended as events unfold and adjusted at any time to suit local circumstances.

I.4. GUARANTEE OF LEGITIMATE DEMONSTRATIONS

Police services responsible for security arrangements at a European Council or similar event should guarantee that legitimate demonstrations are not used to the advantage of other elements whose sole objective is to perpetrate acts of individual and group violence.

II. PERMANENT CONTACT POINTS¹

II.1. DESIGNATION

By the Member States' central authorities responsible for security and law and order.

II.2. TASKS

- Collection, analysis and exchange of relevant information (III.1)
- Forwarding of the processed information to their respective police authorities and services.
- Establishment of risk analysis (III.2)
- Monitoring development of events (III.3)

II.3. MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

- 24-hour availability
- Staff with specified language skills, with knowledge of at least one other EU language.
- Guarantee that lines of communication and information structures are permanently operational.

¹ 10916/01 JAI 82, p. 3, point 1(a).

II.4. UPDATING OF INFORMATION

Any change in the structure of a permanent national contact point affecting the necessary effectiveness of its activity will be reported immediately to the other national contact points.

III. INFORMATION EXCHANGE

III.1. NEEDS, EXPECTATIONS, STRUCTURES AND WORKING METHODS

The permanent national contact point in each Member State (II.1) will organise the collection, analysis and exchange of information relevant to European Councils and other similar events in relation to the other Member States and third countries.

The permanent national contact point will, at any time, forward information which its national authority considers to be relevant in order to improve security at meetings of the European Council and similar events¹.

Permanent national contact points should forward information in such a way that data confidentiality is guaranteed.

III.2. RISK ANALYSIS ²

21 days prior to a meeting of the European Council or similar event, each permanent national contact point will send its counterpart in the State organising the event a risk analysis (IX.1) of the known groups in each country, referring to the following headings:

¹ Article 46, Convention implementing the Schengen Agreement, OJ L 239, 22.9.00.

² 11694/01 LIMITE ENFOPOL 92.

- groups known and likely to demonstrate at the event;
- membership and distinguishing marks;
- means of transport;
- possible links with groups in other countries;
- demonstration methods;
- behaviour towards police services;
- information supplied by the designated liaison officers in third countries relating to possible movements of people from these countries to the venue of the European Council or similar event.

The exchange of personal data will be conducted in strict compliance with the national law applicable in each case.

III.3. EVALUATION REPORT

The permanent national contact point of the organising State will draw up and circulate an evaluation report (IX.2) on the most relevant aspects of security for a meeting of the European Council or similar event, with special reference to disturbances, offences and groupings.

IV. OPERATIONAL POLICE COOPERATION

IV.1. CONTACT POINTS

See section II.

IV.2. TEAMS OF LIAISON OFFICERS ¹

30 days prior to a European Council or similar event, Member States will appoint a liaison officer with the necessary experience in law and order and, in particular, with:

- access to all useful information sources in his home State on the matter of maintaining law and order, related criminal phenomena, and political, social, cultural and religious activism;
- ability to manage relevant information;
- good knowledge of an official EU language other than that of his State.

The organising State shall be notified of the appointment and details of the liaison officer via the respective permanent national contact points.

The liaison officer may be invited to take part in the discussions of the Coordination Group (IX.3) set up by the recipient Member State, in which case he will be assigned to the permanent national contact point, from where he will communicate with his country of origin.

The host State will cover the travel, accommodation and subsistence costs of the liaison officers travelling to its territory for such purposes.

¹ 10916/01 JAI 82, p. 3, point 1(c).

IV.3. OPERATIONAL SUPPORT IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN

The organising State may, at the request of the competent authority and via the respective permanent national contact points, request that police or intelligence officers be sent from another Member State for a specific event.

Any such request (IX.4) will be made at least 21 days before the event takes place and should be accompanied by the reasons behind it.

Any support which might be given by foreign police officers will form part of the host State's strategic plan for police organisation.

This means that foreign police or intelligence officers will be informed of the strategic plan in a language which they can understand, that they will attend preliminary and final briefing sessions, thereby becoming full partners in the information structure, and that they will be actively included in the police deployment on the ground.

The host police organisation should guarantee the physical security of the foreign support police or intelligence officers, ensuring that they are accompanied by members of the host police organisation.

The arrangements for accompanying foreign police officers will be made in such a way that there is always good communication between the heads of the local police forces and the permanent national contact point of the organising country. The foreign police or intelligence officer will always ensure that his actions do not place his colleagues in unnecessary danger or expose them to unjustified risks.

IV.4. OPERATIONAL GROUP OF HEADS OF SECURITY AND LAW AND ORDER (JOINT ACTION OF 26.5.1997)

See section VII.

IV.5. EUROPOL

Joint analysis of disturbances, offences and groupings (III.3).

IV.6. TRAINING AND EQUIPMENT ¹

In order to achieve a high and standard level of training and equipment of the units involved in security at European Councils:

- Basic and advanced training programme for the practical management of emergency situations (study role of CEPOL)
- Standard equipment

V. MEASURES RELATING TO THE CROSSING OF BORDERS

Implementation of Article 2(2) of the Schengen Convention.

Conducting joint checks.

Use of existing legal possibilities to prevent persons known for breaches of the peace from travelling with the intention of organising, provoking or taking part in public disturbances.

Adoption of the instruments necessary for rapid and effective implementation of the expulsion measures possible.

Measures of coordination with participating countries in the event of demonstrators needing to be escorted by the police during their outward or return journey.

¹ 11934/01 LIMITE ENFOPOL 96.

VI. RELATIONS WITH THE MEDIA AND GROUPS CONCERNED

Relations with the media are complex, and any intervention on their part could give rise to misunderstandings liable to affect public opinion.

To minimise problems and ensure that the information given is accurate, there needs to be a pre-defined strategy for relations with the media.

It is necessary to establish channels of communication between the organisation, civic associations and representatives of non-violent protestors. An open and dialogue-oriented attitude on the part of the authorities responsible for security arrangements raises the public's awareness of the need to establish certain measures.

VII. OUTLINE OF WORK/STRATEGIC PLAN

Compilation of national good practices.

VIII. EVALUATION AND MONITORING

Permanent monitoring of this operational procedure falls to the group of heads of Member States' central bodies responsible for security and law and order¹. This group could meet at the request of the host State.

Furthermore, each spring the Presidency-in-office of the EU could organise a meeting of these heads in order to promote cooperation between Member States.

¹ Joint Action of 26.5.1997 and 10916/01 JAI 82.

IX. ANNEXES

IX.1. RISK ANALYSIS

IX.2. EVALUATION REPORT

IX.3. COORDINATION GROUP

IX.4. REQUEST FOR SUPPORT OFFICIALS

