

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

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ENFOPOL 301

NOTE

From:	Presidency
To:	Law Enforcement Working Party
Subject:	Discussion paper as regards the need to revise Council Decision concerning security in connection with football matches with an international dimension

2011-2013 EU Work Programme on further measures designed to maximise safety and security in connection with sports events, in particular football matches, with an international dimension, paragraphs 39 and 40, and actions 34-36 of the 2011 and 2012 Action Plans implementing this Work Programme refer to the need to update the Council Decision concerning security in connection with football matches with an international dimension¹.

Therefore, a small sub-group of the pan-European Think Tank of Football Safety and Security Experts (hereafter the Think Tank) has considered the need of revising Council Decision and proposes that the following aspects as set out below are taken into account when revising this Decision:

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Council Decision 2002/348/JHA of 25 April 2002 concerning security in connection with football matches with an international dimension (OJ L 121, 8.5.2002, p. 1.) as amended by Council Decision 2007/412/JHA of 12 June 2007 (OJ L 155, 15.6.2007, p. 76.)

i) Role of National Football Information Points (NFIPs):

- provide scope and a legal basis for Member States (and third countries) to have the option of expanding the remit of their NFIP to cover other major sports if considered necessary or desirable;
- further clarify the role and remit of NFIPs, also in relation to other information gathering networks:

ii) Travelling known offenders:

• incorporate the key recommendation on travelling known offenders as proposed in the survey of the Danish delegation on the existing legal framework to prevent identified risk fans from attending football matches: (doc. 13659/13 ENFOPOL 293):

"In the light of the study, the group of experts for major sports events recommends (...) that when reviewing Council Decision 2002/348/JHA of 25 April 2002 (OJ L 121, 8.5.2002, p. 1), as amended by Council Decision 2007/412/JHA of 12 June 2007 (OJ L 155, 15.6.2007, p. 76), consideration is given to the possibility to include the principle that each MS should take all possible measures (including travel restrictions) to prevent its own citizens from participating in and/or organising public disturbances in another country".

iii) Integrated, multi-agency approach to safety, security and service:

 highlight the importance (evidenced by extensive European experience and good practice) of adopting an integrated, multi-agency approach to safety, security and service in connection with football matches.

Delegations are invited to discuss these proposals and on the basis of the outcome of discussion invite the Commission to present the corresponding legislative proposal.

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