



## **JUSTICE and HOME AFFAIRS COUNCIL** **18 November 2016 in Brussels**

The Council will be devoted solely to home affairs and will be mainly focused on security issues. The meeting will be chaired by **Robert Kaliňák**, Minister for the Interior of Slovakia.

Ministers will have a first discussion on key aspects of the recent Commission proposal on the **EU Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS)**, which will allow for advance checks and, if necessary, deny entry to visa-exempt travellers.

Ministers will have the opportunity to assess the progress made so far on enhancing **information exchange and interoperability** in the JHA area on the basis of an implementation report on the roadmap and the work of the high level expert group. Under this point, they will also address the future **evolution of the SIS**.

The Council will exchange views on progress made on the implementation of the **EU-PNR** directive and will follow up on the implementation of measures on **counterterrorism** on the basis of a report prepared by the EU Counterterrorism coordinator.

Ministers will also prepare with the Commission the next meeting of the **EU Internet Forum**, scheduled for early December. The forum brings together Ministers, high-level representatives of major internet companies and relevant EU representatives.

In the margins of the Council, the mixed committee (EU plus Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland) will also discuss the **EU Travel Information and Authorisation System** and **information exchange and interoperability**.

A **press conference** will take place at the end of the meeting at +/- 17.15

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*Press conferences and public events by video streaming: <http://video.consilium.europa.eu>  
Video coverage in broadcast quality (MPEG4) and photo gallery on:  
<https://tvnewsroom.consilium.europa.eu/permalink/87642>*

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<sup>1</sup> This note has been drawn up under the responsibility of the press office.

## HOME AFFAIRS

### European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS)\*

Ministers will have a first discussion on key aspects of the recent Commission proposal on the EU Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS), which will allow for advance checks and, if necessary, deny entry to visa-exempt travellers.

For more information:

- [European Commission press release - Security Union: Commission proposes a European Travel Information and Authorisation System](#)

### Information Exchange and Interoperability\*

Following a number of terrorist attacks and terrorism-related incidents in the EU and facing the ongoing migration crisis, the European Council and the Council have repeatedly underlined the importance of investing in a swift, effective and qualitative information exchange and information management and the need to ensure the interoperability solutions for EU databases and information systems as one of the means to address the present security challenges.

The aim of increased information exchange and interoperability is being pursued in particular by implementing the Roadmap to enhance information exchange and information management, including interoperability solutions in the Justice and Home Affairs area, endorsed by the Council on 9 June 2016.

The roadmap sets out the framework for a more integrated EU information architecture and specific, practical short and medium-term actions as well as long-term orientations to enhance information management and information exchange

Ministers will have the opportunity to assess and discuss the progress made so far on the basis of an implementation report on the roadmap.

They will also be briefed on the work of the High Level Expert Group on Information Systems and Interoperability (HLEG), set up by the Commission. The HLEG is dedicated, since 20 June 2016, to examining and making recommendations for improving the way member states implement and use existing systems, and in particular the added value that a single search interface can bring, as well as regarding the possible development of new systems and ensuring the interoperability among them.

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\* This item will be discussed by the Mixed Committee (the EU plus Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Switzerland), in the margins of the Council.

Finally, Ministers will also discuss the improvements and the additional functionalities that the Schengen Information System (SIS) could offer. The Commission has announced its intention to present legislative proposals for revising the SIS II in December 2016 accompanied with a report on the outcome of the SIS II evaluation.

For more information:

- [Roadmap to enhance information exchange and information management including interoperability solutions in the Justice and Home Affairs area](#)
- [High-level expert group on information systems and interoperability](#)
- [Commission communication "Stronger and Smarter Information Systems for Borders and Security"](#)

### **Fight against terrorism\***

Ministers will follow up on the implementation of measures regarding counterterrorism and are expected to take note of a report prepared by the EU Counterterrorism coordinator.

The report presents the state of play, covering progress on all of the measures set out in the conclusions on counter-terrorism agreed by the Members of the European Council on 12 February 2015. It also takes into account the conclusions of the Council of 20 November 2015 (on terrorism and on enhancing the criminal justice response to radicalization leading to terrorism and violent extremism) as well as the conclusions of the European Council of 17 and 18 December 2015. The report also includes a set of recommendations for future actions.

For more information:

- [Council website: Response to foreign terrorist fighters and recent terrorist attacks in Europe](#)

### **EU Internet Forum**

The Council will prepare with the Commission the second high level meeting of the EU Internet Forum, scheduled for 8 December 2016.

The forum launched on 3 December 2015 brings together Ministers, high-level representatives of major internet companies and relevant EU representatives.

The second high level meeting of the Forum will take stock of progress made on its main objectives: reducing accessibility to terrorist content online (removal of content); and increasing the volume of effective alternative and counter narratives online. Member states will also be asked to steer further work on preventing online radicalisation and tackling terrorist propaganda on the internet.

The EU Internet Forum is one of the key commitments made in the European Agenda on Security presented by the Commission in April 2015. The Bratislava Roadmap also underlines the importance of EU support to member states' actions in preventing radicalisation.

For more information:

- [European Agenda on Security](#)
- [Informal meeting of the 27 heads of state or government, 16/09/2016](#)
- [Council website: Response to foreign terrorist fighters and recent terrorist attacks in Europe](#)

## EU-PNR

The Council will exchange views on progress made on the implementation of the EU-Passenger Name Record (PNR) directive, adopted on 21 April 2016.

Passenger name record (PNR) data is personal information provided by passengers and collected and held by air carriers. It includes information such as the name of the passenger, travel dates, itineraries, seats, baggage, contact details and means of payment.

The directive aims to regulate the transfer of such PNR data to member states' law enforcement authorities and their processing for the prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of terrorist offences and serious crime.

Member states have until 25 May 2018 to bring into force the laws, regulations and administrative provisions necessary to comply with this directive.

For more information:

- [Council website: Regulating the use of passenger name record \(PNR\) data](#)
- [Directive 2016/681 on the use of passenger name record \(PNR\) data for the prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of terrorist offences and serious crime](#)

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