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12009/18

LIMITE

COSI 192 CATS 60 CT 143 ENFOPOL 448 ENFOCUSTOM 182 DAPIX 278 SIRIS 114 GENVAL 27 CORDROGUE 69 DROIPEN 126 COPEN 293 FREMP 139 JAI 878

#### **NOTE**

From:	Presidency/outgoing Presidency	
To:	Delegations	
No. prev. doc.:	5671/1/18 REV 1, 7706/18	
Subject:	Implementation of the renewed EU Internal Security Strategy: joint Presidency paper	

Delegations will find attached a joint paper of the outgoing Bulgarian Presidency and the Austrian Presidency on the implementation of the renewed EU Internal Security Strategy.

In line with the Council conclusions of 12 October 2017 on the mid-term review of the Renewed Internal Security Strategy<sup>1</sup> and as endorsed by COSI SG on 16 April 2018<sup>2</sup>, the implementation paper presents a structure based on priorities, on the planning and implementation of the renewed EU Internal Security Strategy for the first and second half of 2018.

1 13319/17

<sup>2</sup> 7706/18

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It consists of two parts:

- A general report providing an overview of the progress achieved during the reporting period in the main priority areas of the renewed ISS priority areas, while focusing on the main achievements and setting out the follow up envisaged by the current Presidency, as relevant.
- Technical follow-up on specific measures

With a view to submitting the duo Presidency paper to COSI on 28 September 2018, delegations are kindly invited to provide written comments to the present version by 20 September 2018, cob, to cosi@consilium.europa.eu

Renewed EU Internal Security Strategy: General Report on the implementation and planning (first and second half of 2018)

#### 1. Renewed Internal Security Strategy priorities

#### 1. 1. Countering terrorism and preventing radicalisation and violent extremism

The fight against terrorism continued to be a high priority on the Council agenda.

Important progress was made in the area of **preventing radicalisation and violent extremism**. The High Level Commission Expert Group on Radicalisation (HLCEG-R), issued its final report on 18 May 2018<sup>3</sup>. The final report sets out priority areas and recommendations and establishes reinforced cooperation mechanisms with Member States. Implementation thereof has started, including the setting up of a Steering Board as well as a small support and coordination structure within the Commission (DG Home). In the framework of COSI and TWP (Working Party on Terrorism), Member States receive regular updates on the EU Internet Forum, the Radicalisation Awareness Network (RAN) Centre of Excellence and the European Strategic Communications Network (ESCN) on strategic communication and the use of alternative narratives. These regular updates by the Commission will be continued under the AT Presidency.

The Court of Auditors has issued its Special report n°13/2018<sup>4</sup>: 'Tackling radicalisation that leads to terrorism: the Commission addressed the needs of Member States, but with some shortfalls in coordination and evaluation'. This report will be examined by TWP under the AT Presidency.

One of the topics on which the BG Presidency focused was the issue of improving the information exchange mechanisms in relation to FTFs (foreign terrorist fighters/returnees. In June 2018 the Council adopted conclusions<sup>5</sup> on the strengthening of the cooperation and the use of the Schengen Information System (SIS) to deal with persons involved in terrorism or terrorism-related activities, including FTFs. The AT Presidency continues to follow the developments, placing a particular focus on EU nationals detained in Syria, Iraq and Turkey. The results of a EU CTC questionnaire<sup>6</sup> on approaches to deal with accompanying family members of FTF returnees, in particular children, was presented to TWP mid-June 2018.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 8951/18

<sup>4 11177/18</sup> 

<sup>5 9691/18</sup> 

<sup>6 9316/18 +</sup> ADD1

Member States were required to transpose by 8 September 2018, the **Directive on combating terrorism** (**EU**) **2017/541** <sup>7</sup>. The Directive extends the list of offences to include travelling and attempting to travel abroad for terrorism, and the funding or facilitation of such travel. It brings EU legislation into line with international developments, such as the adoption of UN Security Council Resolution 2178 and the Additional Protocol to the Council of Europe Convention on the Prevention of Terrorism. The Directive also contains provisions on victims of terrorism. Furthermore in June 2018, the Council adopted conclusions on victims of terrorism<sup>8</sup>.

The deadline for implementing **the PNR (Passenger Name Record) Directive EU 2016/681**<sup>9</sup> into national law expired on 25 May 2018. More than half of the Member States have communicated full transposition of the EU Passenger Name Record (PNR) Directive and have notified the Commission of their decision to apply the PNR also to intra-EU flights.

Based upon the **six-monthly threat assessments** presented by Europol and INTCEN, the BG Presidency reviewed the state of implementation of measures agreed on and made the necessary updates to the recommendations of the EU threat assessment in the field of counter terrorism, which was endorsed by COSI<sup>10</sup> in May 2018. A similar exercise will be undertaken by the AT Presidency this autumn.

Discussions started in the Technical Harmonisation WP in the spring on the Commission Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the **marketing and use of explosives precursors**<sup>11</sup>, amending Annex XVII to Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 and repealing Regulation (EU) No 98/2013 on the marketing and use of explosives precursors. Discussions will continue during the AT Presidency.

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<sup>7 2017/541</sup> 

<sup>9118/18</sup> 

<sup>9 2016/681</sup> 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> 7879/2/18

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> 8342/18+ ADD 1+ADD 2+ADD 3

The EU continued the implementation of the Action Plan of the Commission to support the **protection of public spaces**<sup>12</sup>. The Commission also adopted a recommendation<sup>13</sup> 'on immediate steps to improve security of export, import and transit measures for firearms, their parts and essential components and ammunition' and a proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on strengthening the security of identity cards of Union citizens and of residence documents issued to Union citizens and their family members exercising their right of free movement<sup>14</sup>.

The Council adopted, in December 2017, conclusions <sup>15</sup> on strengthening the European Union response to CBRN-related risks, reducing access to explosive precursors and protecting public spaces. This following up on the CT package submitted by the Commission on 18 October 2017<sup>16</sup>, in particular on the two Action plans on **Enhancing our preparedness against CBRN risks** <sup>17</sup> and to support the protection of public spaces <sup>18</sup>", as well as the Recommendation on explosive precursors,. In the wake of the Salisbury nerve agent attack, the European Council stated in March 2018 <sup>19</sup> that "the EU must strengthen its resilience to "CBRN risks", including through closer cooperation between the European Union and its Member States as well as NATO". It invited the Commission and the High Representative to take this work forward and report on progress for the June 2018 European Council. On this occasion, EU leaders called for the adoption as soon as possible of a new EU regime of restrictive measures to address the use and proliferation of chemical weapons. They also invited the Commission and the High Representative to propose as soon as possible a new EU regime of restrictive measures to address the use and proliferation of chemical weapons.

In the area of **financing of terrorism**, the BG Presidency secured a political agreement with the EP on the 5th Anti Money Laundering Directive (AMLD) (EU) 2018/843. It was published in the Official Journal on 19 June 2018<sup>20</sup>. The provisions of the Directive must be transposed by 10 January 2020.

<sup>12</sup> COM(2017) 612 final

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> C(2018) 2197 final

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> 8175/18 +ADD 1+ADD 2

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> 15648/17

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> COM(2017) 608 final

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> COM(2017) 610 final

<sup>18</sup> COM (2017) 13489/17.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> EUCO 1/18

OJ L 156, 19.6.2018, p. 43–74

On 1 March 2018, the Commission issued a Recommendation on 'Measures to effectively tackle illegal content online- Towards an enhanced responsibility of online platforms"<sup>21</sup>. Following an assessment of the effects of regarding tackling terrorist content online, on 12 September 2018 the Commission proposed a Regulation setting out new rules to get terrorist content off the web. The AT Presidency will work actively on the proposal.

On 13 June 2018, the Commission published its Fifteenth Progress Report<sup>22</sup> towards an effective and genuine Security Union. The report provides a further overview of developments in the CT area and includes an update on the implementation of the October 2017 Action Plan to enhance preparedness against CBRN risks<sup>23</sup>.

#### 1.2. Preventing and fighting serious and organised crime.

The implementation of **the EU Policy Cycle on organised and serious international crime/EMPACT** continued to be the main focus under this ISS priority area. The implementation of the 2018-2021 EU Policy Cycle<sup>24</sup> began during the BG Presidency following the adoption by COSI/COSI Support Group in December 2017 of the 13 Operational Action Plans (OAPs) for 2018<sup>25</sup>.

Furthermore, the Council held on 5 June 2018 a policy debate in which ministers took stock of the impact of the EU Policy Cycle, following the completion of the first Policy Cycle (2014-2017). They confirmed its added value and highlighted its multidisciplinary component as a clear example of a successful EU initiative.

Important EU Policy Cycle matters were also discussed in COSI during the first semester of 2018, including funding, Joint Action Days (JADs), monitoring of the OAPs 2017 and synergiesbetween the EU Policy Cycle and the Ninth CCWP Action Plan<sup>26</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> C(2018) 1177 final

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> 10206/18 + ADD 1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> COM(2017) 610 final

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> 9450/17

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> 15077/1/17 REV 1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> 5920/2/18 REV 2

#### 1.3. Preventing and fighting cybercrime and enhancing cybersecurity

The BG Presidency took active steps to ensure progress on the different work strands aiming to strengthen the EU cyber security and to prevent and fight cybercrime. On the legislative side it enabled a **general approach on the draft Cybersecurity Act**<sup>27</sup> in June 2018 paving the way for the AT Presidency to finalize the negotiations with the EP by the end of the year. The draft regulation will make a significant contribution toward a more cyber secure Europe by turning ENISA into a permanent EU agency for cybersecurity and by setting up for the first time an EU-wide (voluntary) certification framework for ICT products, services and processes. Further progress was made on the implementation of the Network and Information Security Directive during the first semester.

On the policy side, the BG Presidency worked extensively to further develop the **overall EU** coordination, preparedness and capacity to respond to large scale cyber-attacks by adopting dedicated Council conclusions<sup>28</sup> on these issues. It also enabled implementation of the Framework for a Joint EU diplomatic response to malicious cyber activities in another set of Council conclusions<sup>29</sup> condemning the malicious use of ICT, including in Wannacry and NotPetya, which have caused significant damage and economic loss in the EU and beyond.

On the **prevention side** besides the ongoing work within the Policy Cycle under the cybercrime-specific priorities, the Council adopted Conclusions on EU external cyber capacity building guidelines<sup>30</sup>. The conclusions emphasize the need for the EU and its Member States to prioritise capacity building in their initiatives on cybercrime and on increasing cybersecurity in partner countries and regions. The focus should be on reforms across the main pillars of cyber resilience, namely by supporting an overarching strategic framework, promoting legislative reforms and increasing the capacities of the criminal justice system. In the area of cybercrime, developments both in the EU and the Council of Europe have been shaping the regulatory landscape on access to data (e-evidence proposal and the draft 2nd additional protocol to the Budapest Convention).

<sup>9350/18</sup> 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> 10086/18

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> 7925/18

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> 10496/18

A major issue addressed during the BG presidency was **WHOIS database reform** related to the need to ensure compliance of the WHOIS with data protection rules. As regards the EU, this had been a long-standing demand from the Data Protection Authorities across the Union going back to 2003 (still under the old Data Protection Directive). After accumulated delays, on 17 May 2018 ICANN published a single interim model as the temporary standard for compliance with the WHOIS obligations in relation to the GDPR. The Article 29 Working Party considered that the proposed model lacked sufficient detail and thus it could not be fully examined.

As ICANN has not yet provided a comprehensive WHOIS model compliant with GDPR, after GDPR became effective on 25 May 2018, registries and/or registrars have stopped making certain data items collected as part of the WHOIS domain records publicly available. Consequently Member States competent authorities are seriously hampered when investigating and prosecuting cyber-related crimes (cyber crimes, IPR crimes, DNS, abuse, child abuse crimes etc.). Work in the Horizontal Working Party on Cyber Issues is underway and is being facilitated by Europol's active involvement and the Commission's support. The assessment of the technical, legal and financial aspects of the interim solution option proposed by Europol and supported by MSs should be completed as soon as possible with a view to achieving a tangible outcome. The continuous active involvement of the Commission is crucial in this regard.

Work continued during the BG Presidency on strengthening the EU law enforcement response to cybercrime, launched during the EE Presidency<sup>31</sup>. At the COSI Support Group meeting on 2 May 2018, Europol provided an overview on the progress achieved in the various work strands. These include the EU Law Enforcement Emergency Response Protocol (LEERP) in addressing transnational cyber-attacks, which is in preparation. Europol also presented its Roadmap to combat emerging threats on the Dark Web. The main goal of the Roadmap is to coordinate the different efforts already being made in the area in the context of several OAPs (firearms, CSE, drugs, etc.) to level up significantly European law enforcement capacities and to build deterrence though targeted disruptive joint operations.

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#### 2. Cross-cutting priority areas<sup>32</sup>

#### Information exchange and interoperability

The BG Presidency worked intensively in order to enhance information exchange and ensure interoperability between EU information systems.

On 12 December 2017, the Commission tabled two proposals establishing a framework for interoperability between EU information systems. These proposals aim to significantly improve the current landscape of information exchange and contribute to the internal security of the Union and its Member States. Fast, seamless, systematic and controlled access to the information needed to perform tasks will be available to end-users (border guards, law enforcement officers, immigration officials and judicial authorities). A solution to detect multiple identities linked to the same set of biometric data is proposed in order to better fight identity fraud. Identity checks of third-country nationals by police authorities within the territory of a Member State will be facilitated. There is also a proposal for streamlining of access by law enforcement authorities to non-law enforcement EU information systems. Where necessary, this will be for the prevention, investigation, detection or prosecution of serious crime and terrorism. A mandate to start negotiations with the European Parliament on these two draft Regulations was granted by Coreper on 14 June 2018<sup>33</sup>. The AT Presidency will work actively on both draft Regulations in order to reach a political agreement with the EP by December 2018.

A state of play on the implementation of the Roadmap to enhance information exchange and information management including interoperability solutions in the Justice and Home Affairs area was presented to COSI on 26 June 2018<sup>34</sup>. Implementation of the measures included in the Roadmap will continue to be discussed in the relevant working parties (SIS/SIRENE Working Party, DAPIX, SCIFA) and will be monitored by COSI.

The deadline for implementing the Data Protection Law Enforcement Directive (EU) 2016/680 into national law expired on 6 May 2018. Half of the Member States have communicated full or partial transposition of the Data Protection Law Enforcement Directive.

Measures with horizontal implications for internal security and relevant for the fight of various forms of crime.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> 9670/18

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> 7931/1/18 REV 1

#### Availability of data

#### - Data retention:

In the course of 2018 the BG Presidency advanced the reflection process by addressing a number of elements on restricted data retention ("interference level 1"). With the support of Europol a data matrix was compiled and examined together with Member States experts. Among the main findings was the fact that the data retained for law enforcement purposes was already a subset of even broader data sets that are technically available. Therefore further restriction could be difficult given the diverse nature of crimes and the different type of evidence needed. Furthermore, rapid technical developments resulting in practice in constant modification of the type of data available should be also taken into account. In addition the concept of renewable retention warrants was examined as a possible solution. During the AT Presidency focus would be put on examining the concept of targeted access ("interference level 2).

#### - E-evidence:

With the adoption in April 2018 by the COM of the legislative proposals on access to e-evidence<sup>35</sup> EU launched the process of setting its own legal framework in the area. The examination of the legislative proposals in this complex matter has started and discussions demonstrate the need for a regime that would address the deficiencies of the current MLA and voluntary cooperation. Following the June JHA Council during which Ministers underlined the need to extend the scope of the draft regulation also to direct access and real-time interception.

COM was tasked to facilitate expert consultation on the latter. In parallel to the Commission proposals, international developments on the matter included the adoption of the US Cloud Act in March 2018 and the start in September 2017.of the drafting of the second Protocol to the Budapest Convention in the Council of Europe.

<sup>35</sup> 8115/18, 8110/18

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#### - Encryption:

COM clarified further the various technical and legal challenges faced by LEA as regards the use of encryption following the request by the JHA Council in December 2016.

As a result, there have been a number of practical measures including an effort made to raise the level of expertise, an exchange of good practices and an upgrading of Europol's decryption capacity. The monitoring of technological developments and a continued dialogue with industry to examine how best to address evolving challenges in this area were considered to be crucial.

#### • Strengthening the links between external and internal dimension of security

The establishment of the Crime Information Cell (CIC) within EUNAVFOR MED Operation Sophia<sup>36</sup> brought a tangible progress in enhancing operational cooperation between the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) and Justice and Home Affairs (JHA) actors. The CIC staff includes members of relevant law enforcement authorities of Member States and of the EU agencies Frontex and Europol and aims at optimising information sharing between them. The cell is tasked with facilitating the receipt, collection and transmission of information on migrant smuggling and trafficking in human beings, the implementation of the UN arms embargo on Libya, illegal trafficking, as well as crimes relevant to the security of the operation itself. The CIC was activated on 5 July 2018; since then five specialised personnel from Europol, Frontex, and EUNAVFOR Med were embarked on board of Flagship of EUNAVFOR Med operation Sophia.

In the first semester of 2018 COSI has also been briefed by the EEAS on the ongoing discussions regrading the strengthening of the civilian CSDP capabilities.

Follow-up on the above topics will be provided under the AT Presidency.

<sup>36</sup> 7708/18

#### **Cooperation with third countries**

The adoption of the Western Balkans strategy by the Commission on 6 February 2018 set up the framework for developing further cooperation with the region. This was followed by the adoption of the Sofia declaration of the EU-Western Balkans summit of 17 May 2018.

The first EU-Western Balkans senior officials meeting was held in Brussels on 25 June 2018<sup>37</sup>. Its aim was to provide a framework of operational exchanges at technical level in order to deliver on the Sofia Summit Declaration, to follow up on the Commission's Western Balkan Strategy (and its flagship initiatives), to follow up on the outcomes of the last Ministerial meeting and to prepare the ground for the political discussions that will take place at the next EU-Western Balkan JHA Ministerial meeting (Tirana, 4-5 October). The Commission is seeking the approval of the Council to sign a Joint Action Plan on counterterrorism for the Western Balkans at this Ministerial.

The Western Balkans continued to be included in operational activities under the EU Policy Cycle, thus enhancing the security of the region by improving the information exchange in combating serious and organised crime and terrorism.

On 21 February 2018 COSI endorsed the input on the draft action plan for the Western Balkan Counter-Serious Crime initiative and the measures proposed with a view to improving synergies with the Policy Cycle in particular<sup>38</sup>. Emphasis was placed on the need to avoid duplication of efforts in the implementation of the respective measures in the broader context of enhancing cooperation with and in the region. The Committee invited relevant actors to meet with the relevant Drivers of the EU crime priorities to identify synergies and further possibilities for cooperation.

On 6 September 2018, the EEAS and Commission presented at PSC a joint Progress Report on the implementation of the Council Conclusions on EU External Action on counterterrorism of 19 June 2017. The importance to continue dialogue on cooperation with priority third countries, e.g. in the Western Balkans or MENA region, Turkey should be underlined in this context.

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<sup>37</sup> 10501/18

The AT Presidency continues the work on deepening the cooperation with the Western Balkans as well as with African partners. In this respect the Conference "Security and Migration – Promoting Partnership and Resilience" on the 13/14 September 2018 in Vienna is to be mentioned. The ministerial meeting was dedicated to the JHA cooperation with third countries and in particular to enhancing police cooperation with the Western Balkans and Moldova creating a "Prüm for South-East Europe". Activities in the field of asylum/migration/border management as well extremism/terrorism were also addressed.

On 4 June 2018, the JHA Council adopted eight Decisions<sup>39</sup> authorising the Commission to open negotiations for agreements between the EU and **Algeria**, **Egypt**, **Israel**, **Jordan**, **Lebanon**, **Morocco**, **Tunisia and Turkey respectively on the exchange of personal data between Europol and those countries'** competent authorities for fighting serious crime and terrorism. Work on the agreements will be actively pursued under the AT Presidency.

#### Enhancing customs contribution to internal security

The BG Presidency launched a discussion in COSI on enhancing customs contribution to internal security<sup>40.</sup> The Committee expressed broad support for putting forward a more structured approach in the area and tasked CCWP in close cooperation with LEWP and EU agencies to develop further the proposed work strands outlined in the Presidency paper. COSI will return to the subject by the end of 2018 to take stock of the progress achieved.

#### Smuggling of migrants

A thematic discussion took place in COSI on 26 June 2018 and the Committee confirmed the way ahead for optimising the use of EU tools to counter migrant smuggling while building on the progress achieved so far<sup>41</sup>. AT presidency will continue working actively on this matter.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> 9320/18 + ADD 1; 9330/18 + ADD 1; 9331/18 + ADD 1; 9332/18 + ADD 1; 9333/18 + ADD 1; 9334/18 + ADD 1; 9339/18 + ADD 1; 9342/18 + ADD 1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> 7705/2/18 REV 2

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> 10256/18

#### Follow-up on specific measures

	1. Renewed ISS priorities	
	1.1.Countering terrorism and preventing radicalisation and violent extremism	
1.	Prevention of radicalisation, including developments under HLC Responsible WP <sup>42</sup> : TWP	EG-R, RAN, Internet forum
	<ul> <li>addressed the needs of Members States, but with some shortfa</li> <li>Commission Recommendation on measures to effectively tac</li> <li>Council Recommendation of 22 May 2018 on promoting conteaching (9010/18)</li> <li>High Level Commission Expert Group on Radicalisation (HL</li> <li>Commission Progress Reports (1-15) towards an effective and</li> </ul>	"Tackling radicalisation that leads to terrorism: the Commission alls in coordination and evaluation" 11177/18 kle illegal content online C(2018) 1177 final ommon values, inclusive education, and the European dimension of CEG-R)- final report: Follow up and work ahead (8951/18)
	State of play/progress made:	Envisaged follow-up:
	Follow up and work ahead of the HLCEG-R (8951/18), discussed in COSI in June 2018.  Regular updates in TWP on the work of the EU Internet Forum.	General approach on the proposed Regulation on tackling preventing the dissemination of terrorist content online, submitted on 12 September 2018, envisaged for December 2018.
		Council Conclusions on the Court of Auditors' report to be adopted in the second half of 2018.

The responsible WP(s) on the substance of the respective file are indicated, while COSI, CATS or SCIFA provide an overview and strategic guidance on a number of the files. The latter activities could be indicated in the state of play/follow-up section, as relevant.

2.	FTFs/Returnees, including the judicial dimension	
	Responsible WP: TWP, DROIPEN	
	Main documents:	
	<ul> <li>Directive (EU) 2017/541 on combating terrorism and repl Council Decision 2005/671/JHA was adopted on 15 March 20</li> </ul>	acing Council Framework Decision 2002/475/JHA and amending 017. The transposition period expires on 8 September 2018.
	<ul> <li>Council decisions on the conclusion on behalf of the Europea its Additional Protocol<sup>44</sup>.</li> </ul>	n Union, of the CoE Convention on the prevention of terrorism <sup>43</sup> and
	<ul> <li>RAN Manual – Responses to returnees: Foreign terrorist fight</li> </ul>	ters and their families, July 2017
	<ul> <li>Child Returnees: Results of the questionnaire on approaches Fighter (FTF) Returnees, in particular children (9316/18 + AI</li> </ul>	to dealing with accompanying family members of Foreign Terrorist DD1) (the addendum being EU RESTRICTED)
	State of play/progress made:	Envisaged follow-up:
	The Union acceded to the CoE Convention on the Prevention of	Implemented
	Terrorism and its Additional Protocol on 26 June 2018.	Continuing
	Results of the questionnaire on approaches to dealing with	
	accompanying family members of FTF Returnees, in particular	
	children distributed by the EU CTC to EU Member States, Norway,	
	Switzerland as well as the Western Balkan states.	

OJ L 159, 22.6.2018, p. 1–2 OJ L 159, 22.6.2018, p. 15–16 43

<sup>44</sup> 

	Roadmap on Information exchange (Chapter III)		
3.	Post-hit follow-up under Article 36 SIS II		
	Responsible WP: TWP, SIS/SIRENE		
	Main documents:		
	• Council Conclusions on strengthening the cooperation and the use of the Schengen Information System (SIS) to deal with persons involved in terrorism or terrorism-related activities, including foreign terrorist fighters (4 June 2018) (9691/18).		
	State of play/progress made:	Envisaged follow-up:	
	Council Conclusions were adopted on 4 June 2018. They address Member States, the Commission, Europol, Frontex and Cepol.	Under AT Presidency the implementation of the Council Conclusions will be followed up by the SIS/SIRENE WP and/or the Heads of SIRENE. This will be carried out in cooperation with other stakeholders, in particular Europol. A joint meeting with Europol and SIS/SIRENE representatives from the Member States would be convened to address the practical implementation of the Council Conclusions and the future functionalities in the framework of the new SIS Regulations (see also measure 41).	
4.	Enhance security of explosives and explosive precursors Responsible WP: TWP, WP on Technical harmonisation		
	Main documents:		
	COM proposal for a Regulation on the marketing and use of explosives precursors submitted on 17 April 2018(8342/18+ ADD 1+ADD 2+ADD 3)		
	State of play/progress made:	Envisaged follow-up:	
	Ongoing negotiations, started in June 2018 at the WP on Technical Harmonisation	Work towards general approach, possibly by December 2018.	

5.	CBRN communication and Action Plan implementation Responsible WP: TWP	
	Main documents:	
	<ul> <li>Council conclusions of 7 December 2017 on strengthening the European Union response to CBRN related risks, reducing access to explosive precursors and protecting public spaces (15648/17)</li> <li>Action Plan to enhance preparedness against chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear security risks COM(2017) 610 final</li> <li>Fifteenth Progress Report towards an effective and genuine Security Union, COM(2018) 470 final, 13.6.2018</li> <li>Joint Communication on Increasing resilience and bolstering capabilities to address hybrid threats, JOIN(2018) 16 final, 13.6.2018</li> </ul>	
	State of play/progress made:	Envisaged follow-up:
	Regular debriefs in TWP by COM as well as presentations from MSs.	Following the June 2018 EUCO call for the adoption as soon as possible of a new EU regime of restrictive measures to address the use and proliferation of chemical weapons, the Presidency tends to increasingly focus on the topic.
6.	Threat assessment Responsible WP: TWP	
	Main documents:	
	<ul> <li>EU threat assessment in the field of CT, endorsed by COSI in</li> <li>Fifteenth Progress Report towards an effective and genuine Se</li> </ul>	ecurity Union, COM(2018) 470
	State of play/progress made:	Envisaged follow-up:
	In May 2018, COSI endorsed the updated policy recommendations, on the basis of the EU INTCEN sixth monthly Islamist terrorist threat assessment and a report from Europol on "An outlook on developments in Jihadist terrorism - 4th report for the Terrorism Working Group (TWG) (EU RESTRICTED)".	Threat assessment to be reviewed by the end of 2018.

7.	Atlas Network	
	Responsible WP: LEWP	
	Main documents:	
	<ul> <li>Informally established in 2001 and formalized by the Council</li> </ul>	Decision 2008/617/JHA.
	<ul> <li>Council Conclusions on the strengthening of the ATLAS Net</li> </ul>	work - Council conclusions (7 December 2017) - 15627/17
		Envisaged follow-up:
	State of play/progress made:  At the Law Enforcement Working Party (LEWP) meeting of 21	COSI will continue monitoring future developments of the ATLAS network.
	June 2018, Europol informed that a formal agreement with ATLAS commanders would be submitted for adoption to the Europol Management Board meeting on 3 October 2018. The ATLAS Support Office (ASO) is expected to be established by mid-2019.	Based on the above Council conclusions, a permanent ATLAS support office is being created under the auspices of Europol and should become operational during the first semester of 2019. Further enhancements are being discussed in the LEWP on the
	Council Conclusions <i>on the strengthening of the ATLAS Network</i> (15627/17) adopted in December 2017, further discussions are ongoing.	basis of the conclusions (pooling of expensive equipment, training centres of excellence etc.). The topic has been on the agenda of the LEWP on 24 July 2018 and will be discussed again on 26 September 2018.
8.	Protecting public spaces Responsible WP: TWP	
	Main documents:	
	<ul> <li>Action Plan to support the protection of public spaces was presented by COM on 18 October 2017 (13489/17).</li> <li>Council conclusions on strengthening the European Union response to CBRN related risks, reducing access to explosive precursors and protecting public spaces (7 December 2017) - 15648/17</li> </ul>	
	State of play/progress made:	Envisaged follow-up:
	Regular reports from the Commission in the framework of TWP.	Continuous

9.	WBCTi initiative Responsible WP: TWP	
	Main documents:	1 (4 ) (4 ) 1 (2015) 12007/15
	<ul> <li>EU Western Balkan counter-terrorism initiative: integrative plan of action (4 December 2015) - 13887/15</li> <li>Council Conclusions on strengthening the EU internal security's external dimension in the Western Balkans including via the Integrative Internal Security Governance (IISG) - (8 December 2016) (15413/16)</li> <li>Western Balkan Counter-Terrorism Initiative (WBCTi) iPA 2015-2017 Final Report</li> </ul>	
	• Final Draft WBCTi iPA 2018-2020  State of play/progress made:	Envisaged follow-up:
	Progress report presented to TWP in spring 2018.	A Joint Action Plan on Counter-Terrorism for the Western Balkans to be signed by the Commission on behalf of the EU and by Western Balkans partners at the JHA Ministerial meeting in Tirana on 5 October 2018
10.	Battlefield evidence Responsible WP: TWP, CATS  Main documents:	
	<ul> <li>Strengthening military and law enforcement information exchange in counter-terrorism (10880/17 + ADD 1)</li> </ul>	
	State of play/progress made:	Envisaged follow-up:
	At the initiative of the EU CTC, in July 2017 TWP and COTER discussed the importance of ensuring that information collected by forces on the battlefields of Syria and Iraq relating to terrorist fighters is handled in a manner admissible to courts in Europe and allowing its use in the context of border checks. Eurojust was tasked to map challenges and best practice in using information collected by military (on the battlefield) for investigations and prosecutions of terrorist offences. The outcome of Eurojust's work on this matter was presented in the first half of 2018.  First staff-to-staff dialogue on counterterrorism, incl. a discussion on battlefield evidence, between NATO and the EU was held on 29 May 2018 in Brussels.	Following its fifth report, Foreign Terrorist Fighters: Eurojust's views on the Phenomenon and the Criminal Justice Response, presented to the JHA Council in December 2017, Eurojust, in close cooperation with the national correspondents for Eurojust for terrorism matters and with the Genocide Network, has started mapping best practice and challenges in the use of information collected by the military from armed conflict zones as evidence in terrorism and/or war crimes proceedings and/or as the basis for opening criminal investigations or prosecutions.  Recurrent topic discussed with the US, Interpol and NATO.

The EU supports Interpol in building the battlefield-evidencegathering capabilities of the local military and law enforcement agencies in Iraq, and to facilitate information-sharing with Tunisia, Libya and Niger with a view to enhancing their capacity of bringing to justice individuals linked to war crimes, serious crimes or terrorism and of preventing the movement of foreign terrorist fighters. Implementation of the Action Plan for strengthening the fight against terrorist financing 11. Responsible WP: TWP, Financial Counsellors Main documents: • Action Plan for strengthening the fight against terrorist financing(5782/16+ADD 1+ADD 2) State of play of implementing the action plan for strengthening the fight against terrorist financing (WK 6622/2017) Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on the import of cultural goods (2017/0158 COD) Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on controls on cash entering or leaving the Union and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1889/2005 (2016/0413 (COD)) State of play/progress made: *Envisaged follow-up:* The proposal for a Regulation on controls on cash entering or Continuous leaving the Union was adopted at Coreper on 27 June 2018 as 'I' item for confirmation of the final compromise text in view of political agreement with the EP. The proposal for a Regulation on the import of cultural goods is awaiting committee decision in the European parliament. The proposal aims to prevent import and storage in the EU of cultural goods illicitly exported from a third country, thereby reducing trafficking in cultural goods, combatting terrorism financing and protecting cultural heritage.

#### 1.2. Preventing and fighting serious and organised crime

# 11. EU Policy Cycle on organised and serious international crime/EMPACT Responsible WP: COSI

#### Main documents:

- Council Conclusions on the continuation of the EU Policy Cycle for organised and serious international crime for the period 2018-2021 Council conclusions (27 March 2017) (7704/17).
- Council conclusions on setting the EU's priorities for the fight against organised and serious international crime between 2018 and 2021 (18 May 2017) (9450/17)

#### State of play/progress made:

As regards funding, COSI held a policy debate on 21 February 2018. Overall support was expressed for the measures put forward by the Presidency, as set out in 5929/18, for more efficient use of the Policy Cycle budget in the future. As a follow-up, an expert group on funding issues was established in the auspices of the NEC meeting on 25 April 2018 on proposal by AT. The group held its first meeting at Europol on 20 June 2018 and a second took place on 30 August 2018.

In the context of monitoring the implementation of the OAPs 2017, on 15 May 2018 COSI focused on three specific issues (7912/18) extracted from the findings and recommendations contained in Europol's report (7906/18 + ADD1) and the NECs' meeting report (7908/18): (1) to strengthen the identity of the EU Policy Cycle and endorsed the recommendations on improving communication on the EU Policy Cycle as set out in 7909/18, including the logo proposed by the NECs; (2) the need to ensure the quality and timely submission of the OAP implementation reports and (3) the establishment of a pilot project for online reporting for the EU Policy Cycle in the OAP on Organised Property Crime.

#### Envisaged follow-up:

To monitor the implementation of the measures for more efficient use of the funds for the Policy Cycle, including stock taking on the 2018 budget use in September.

To include in the EU Policy Cycle ToR some aspects of the recommendations on improving communication on the EU Policy Cycle.

To monitor the implementation of the 2018 OAPs, on the basis of the Drivers' reports (the first reporting exercise under the new reporting mechanism scheme (15880/17), in particulat using a 'traffic light approach'); Europol's interim findings on the implementation of OAPs and NEC meeting report.

To evaluate the results of the pilot project on online reporting tool

To adopt 2019 OAPs.

To assess the results of the JADs 2018 and provide strategic guidance for the 2019 JADs.

To monitor the preparation of Mid-term review of new, changing or emerging threats.

	On 15 May 2018, COSI endorsed Presidency Note 5920/2/18 REV 2 which describes the synergies between the activities developed under the EU Policy Cycle and the Ninth CCWP Action Plan and includes a number of coordination measures for the year 2018.	
	On 2 May 2018, the COSI Support Group validated the terms of reference for the mid-term review on new, changing or emerging threats as set out in 7913/18.	
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11.	Domestic burglary	
В	Responsible WP: COSI	
	Main documents:	
	Council Conclusions on organised domestic burglary - Council	cil conclusions (13 October 2016) (13268/16)
	State of play/progress made:	Envisaged follow-up:
	At the COSI meeting on 26 June 2018, DE presented a progress report (10260/18) which was prepared in close cooperation with BE, FR, SE and Europol regarding the follow-up to the Council complying an ergonized demostic burglery (12268/16)	To monitor the implementation of the measures set out in the Council conclusions. While some actions set out in the conclusions seem to be completed, some others still require further work. Work on that motter will continue in the COSI Support Crown
	conclusions on organised domestic burglary (13268/16).	on that matter will continue in the COSI Support Group
	Drugs	
	Responsible WP: Horizontal Working Party on Drugs (HDG)	
	Main documents:	
	<ul> <li>EU Drugs Strategy 2013-2020, implemented through two EU Action Plans that cover the periods 2013-2016 and 2017-2020 (adopted on 20 June 2017), respectively.</li> <li>Actions cover the two policy areas of the Strategy: Drug Demand Reduction and Drug Supply Reduction; and the three cross-cutting themes of the Strategy: Coordination, International Cooperation; and Information, Research, Monitoring and Evaluation.</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Policy Cycle MASP (14027/17, 13739/17) and OAP 2018 (1 UE).</li> </ul>	4309/1/17 REV 1 RESTREINT UE. 14421/1/17 REV 1 RESTREINT

#### International cooperation in the field of drugs **12.** Main documents: • EU-Central Asia Action Plan on Drugs (2014-2020) (18020/13) Joint Declaration on enhancing cooperation on drugs and renewing the commitments of the EU-Western Balkans Action Plan on Drugs (2009-2013) (5390/14) Political declarations of the EU-CELAC Coordination and Cooperation Mechanism on Drugs (last one - Sofia Declaration, 10482/18) *Envisaged follow-up:* The next bi-annual EU-US dialogue on drugs will take place on State of play/progress made: 18 October 2018. The next EU-CELAC Technical Committee Dialogues on drugs with US and Western Balkans as well as High meeting will be held on 28 November 2018. Level meeting of the EU-CELAC Cooperation and Coordination At the 20th EU-China Summit (16 July 2018), both sides agreed to mechanism on Drugs were organised during the Bulgarian launch an annual EU-China Dialogue on Drugs, incorporating existing consultations on drug precursors. They welcomed the Presidency, where drug supply reduction issues were discussed ongoing Europol-China strategic cooperation as an important step among other issues. towards enhanced EU-China cooperation on law enforcement and transnational crimes. Legislative package (Regulation and Directive) on new psychoactive substances (NPS) 13. Main documents: • Regulation (EU) 2017/2101 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 November 2017 amending Regulation (EC) No 1920/2006 as regards information exchange on, and an early warning system and risk assessment procedure for, new psychoactive substances. • Directive (EU) 2017/2103 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 November 2017 amending Council Framework Decision 2004/757/JHA in order to include new psychoactive substances in the definition of 'drug' and repealing Council Decision 2005/387/JHA. *Envisaged follow-up:* State of play/progress made: The new procedure for scheduling the most dangerous new The legislative package was adopted in November 2017. psychoactive substances at the EU level will be applicable as from November 2018.

14.	International scheduling of new psychoactive substances (NPS)	
	Main documents:	
	• COUNCIL DECISION on the position to be adopted, on behalf of the European Union, in the sixty-first session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on the scheduling of substances under the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol and the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971 (6084/18)	
	State of play/progress made:	Envisaged follow-up:
	Decision adopted in February 2018, giving instructions for Member States' voting on international new psychoactive substances scheduling at the 61st Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) session in March 2018.	A list of new psychoactive substances should be proposed for international scheduling at the 62nd CND session in March 2019 and the Council should adopt a similar decision as regards the EU position in 2019.
15.	Scheduling of new psychoactive substances (NPS) at the EU level	
	Main documents:	
	<ul> <li>Council Decision 2005/387/JHA of 10 May 2005 on the information exchange, risk-assessment and control of new psychoactive substances (new legislation will be applied for banning NPS at the EU level as from 2018 November)</li> </ul>	
	State of play/progress made:	Envisaged follow-up:
	Council implementing decision on subjecting ADB-CHMINACA to control measures and Council implementing decision on subjecting CUMYL-4CN-BINACA to control measures were adopted during the Bulgarian Presidency and risk assessment reports were issued on two new fentanyls cyclopropylfentanyl and methoxyacetylfentanyl.	After consultation with the Parliament is concluded (planned for 11 September 2018) on the draft Council implementing decision on subjecting cyclopropylfentanyl and methoxyacetylfentanyl to control measures, the Council will vote on this decision (planned for 27 September 2018).

16.	Council conclusions on Alternatives to coercive sanctions as a res	sponse to drug law and drug-related offences	
	Main documents:		
	• Promoting the use of alternatives to coercive sanctions for drug using offenders (8 March 2018) (6931/18).		
	This agreement represents the political will of the 28 EU Member States to apply, in each legal system, alternative measures to coercive sanctions in order to: prevent crime; reduce recidivism; enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the criminal justice system and look at reducing health-related harms and minimising social risks.		
	Alternative measures can include: education; suspension of investigation or prosecution; suspension of sentence with treatment; rehabilitation and recovery, aftercare and social reintegration.		
	State of play/progress made:	Envisaged follow-up:	
	Bulgarian Presidency continued the work of the Estonian Presidency and the Council conclusions on alternatives to coercive sanctions were adopted in March 2018.	These Council Conclusions represent the political will of the 28 EU Member States to apply, in each legal system, alternative measures to coercive sanctions in order to: prevent crime; reduce recidivism; enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the criminal justice system and look at reducing health-related harms and minimising social risks.	
17.	Monitor the implementation of the CCWP 8th Action Plan (2016 – 2017) Responsible WP: CCWP		
	Main documents:		
	• 8th Action Plan (2016-2017) of the Customs Cooperation World	king Party (CCWP) (13749/3/15).	
	State of play/progress made:	Envisaged follow-up:	
	On 5 April 2018, the CCWP approved the final reports on JCPO "Armstrong IV" (Action 8.4), JCPO "Columbus" (Action 8.4), Action 8.4: "Illicit trafficking of firearms", JCO "Darius" (Action 8.1) and Action 8.1: "Illegal trade via Internet/small consignments".	There is not a specific follow-up for the current Presidency.  However, the action leaders of the 9th Action Plan should take into account the relevant recommendations and lessons learnt included in the final reports of the 8th Action Plan.	

# Monitor the implementation of the CCWP 9th Action Plan 2018-2019 and the link with the Operational Action Plans from the EU Policy Cycle for serious and organised crime Responsible WP: CCWP

#### Main documents:

- 9th Action Plan (January 2018 December 2019 (13926/3/17 REV 3)
- Synergies and opportunities for coordination between the activities developed under the EU Policy Cycle and the Ninth Customs Cooperation Working Party Action Plan for the year 2018 (5920/2/18).

#### State of play/progress made:

On 31 January 2018, CCWP approved the mandates for the following Actions: 9.1.1 "Illegal cigarette production sites within the EU and proliferation of cigarette production machines and tobacco precursors imported legally", 9.12.1 "Laundering (the removal of fiscal marker)", 9.1.2.2 "Smuggling of 'designer fuels'", 9.5. "Fight against IPR infringements", and 9.7 "Better integration of Customs in EU SOCTA".

On 14 February 2018, CCWP approved Action 9.3 "Customs against internet crime".

On 5 April 2018, CCWP approved Action 9.6 "Fight against IPR infringements".

On 19 June 2018, CCWP approved the mandates for the following Actions 9.2 "Smuggling of chemicals and precursors for explosives and Action 9.4 "Fight against illicit cash movements.

The drivers of OAPs "Environmental Crime", "Synthetic drugs and NPS" and "Firearms" made presentations on 11 January, 14 February and 27 March 2018 respectively.

On 15 May 2018 COSI endorsed the paper identifying synergies and opportunities for coordination between the activities developed under the EU Policy Cycle and the Ninth Customs Cooperation Working Party Action Plan for the year 2018 (5920/2/18).

### Envisaged follow-up:

- Monitor the implementation on the 9th Action Plan.
- Ensure fluent flow of information between Action leaders and CCWP as well as with drivers of the relevant OAPs.

# Strengthen the EU's' capacity for the detection of illicit trade in goods at the external border, in line with the EU Strategy and Action Plan for customs risk management. Responsible WP: CCWP

Main documents:

- COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, THE COUNCIL AND THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE on the EU Strategy and Action Plan for customs risk management: Tackling risks, strengthening supply chain security and facilitating trade COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, THE COUNCIL AND THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE on the EU Strategy and Action Plan for customs risk management: Tackling risks, strengthening supply chain security and facilitating trade (12644/14 + ADD 1
- Council Conclusions on the EU Strategy and Action Plan on customs risk management: Tackling risks, strengthening supply chain security and facilitating trade (15403/14)

The EU Strategy and Action Plan for customs risk management aims for a multi-layered approach to strengthen the capacity of the customs authorities in the fight against illicit trade. An important objective is to enhance the cooperation and exchange of information between Customs and other law enforcement agencies in order to achieve more intelligence-led controls on goods mainly at the external border of the EU.

State of play/progress made:

Panel session on the implementation of the Directive (EU) 2016/681 on the use of passenger name record (PNR) data for the prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of terrorist offences and serious crime with a focus on the participation of the Customs in the Passenger Information Units. Best practices for efficient and effective passenger process controls.

Exchange of views of possible topics for discussion meeting of the European Police Chiefs Convention (EPCC) and of the Directors General of Customs Administrations in Europol HQ in September 2018.

*Envisaged follow-up:* 

Finalise the preparation of the discussion which will be held at the meeting of EPCC-DGs of Customs in September 2018.

20.	Environmental crime Responsible WP: LEWP, COPEN		
	Main documents:		
	<ul> <li>Council Conclusions on countering environmental crime - Council conclusions (8 December 2016) (15412/16).</li> <li>Implementation 2018-2021 EU Policy Cycle for organised and serious international crime: Multi Annual Strategic Plan (MASP) for Environmental Crime Priority (11806/17).</li> <li>2018 Operation Action Plan (OAP) Environmental Crime (14484/1/17 RESTREINT UE + COR 1).</li> <li>Eighth round of mutual evaluations on environmental crime - Questionnaire (30 May 2017) (8919/1/17).</li> </ul>		
	State of play/progress made:	Envisaged follow-up:	
	The eighth round of mutual evaluations on environmental crime is	Continuous	
	advancing well. According to the planning, 18 Member States have been already evaluated.  After the joint LEWP-COPEN meeting on 14 September 2018 there will be 12 reports already discussed and adopted.	The last evaluation visit will take place in February 2019.	
21.	Forencie science area		
	<ul> <li>Main documents:</li> <li>Council Conclusions and Action Plan on the way forward in view of the creation of a European Forensic Science Area - Council conclusions (9 June 2016) (10128/16).</li> <li>Implementation of the Action Plan on the way forward in view of the creation of a European Forensic Science Area (19 October 2017) (10122/1/17).</li> <li>Action Plan on the way forward in view of the creation of a European Forensic Science Area - mid-term progress report (22 November 2017) (14606/17).</li> </ul>		
	State of play/progress made:	Envisaged follow-up:	
	Mid-term progress report adopted at the LEWP meeting on 26 November 2017 (14606/17).	No specific follow-up foreseen during 2018, further monitoring of implementation during 2019.	

### 22. Administrative approach Responsible WP: LEWP

Main documents:

- Council conclusions on the administrative approach to prevent and fight serious and organised crime (9 June 2016)(9935/2016)
- Network on Administrative Approach Affiliation to the LEWP (22 March 2018) (7316/18).

State of play/progress made:

Document 7316/18 has been presented to the LEWP on 27 March 2018, where 3 Member States requested more time to consider whether the affiliation of the Network to the LEWP was appropriate. All these Member States have subsequently lifted their reservations and the Presidency announced the affiliation at the LEWP meeting on 21 June 2018.

Envisaged follow-up:

Monitoring of the Network's activity according to the guidelines for networks (strategic objectives, work programmes, annual reports - cf. 15572/17)

### 23. Illicit firearms

#### **Responsible WP: LEWP, CCWP**

Main documents:

- EU action plan against illicit trafficking in and use of firearms and explosives (2 December 2015) (COM(2015) 624 final
- 2018 Operation Action Plan (OAP) Firearms (14318/1/17 REV 1 RESTREINT UE).
- 8th CCWP Action Plan (Action 8.4): Illicit trafficking of firearms Draft final report (22 March 2018) (7241/18)
- COM Recommendation of 17 April 2018 on immediate steps to improve security of export, import and transit measures for firearms, their parts and essential components and ammunition (C(2018) 2197 final)

State of play/progress made:

COSI took note on 26 June 2018 of a presentation by the Chair of the European Firearms Experts (EFE) network on best practice guidance for the creation of national firearms focal points within the EU Member States (8586/18), as endorsed by the LEWP on 17 May 2018. The purpose of the focal points is to gather, analyse and improve the flow of information regarding the criminal use and illicit trafficking of firearms into and within the Member State and throughout the EU at a strategic and operational level.

On 5 April 2018, CCWP approved the draft final report of Action

Envisaged follow-up:

Continue monitoring the implementation of the OAP 2018 on FIREARMS .

LEWP will monitor the further developments on the creation of national firearms focal points within the EU Member States (15 Member States have not yet nominated focal points). As there is not a specific action in the 9th Action Plan on firearms, the Presidency should support the involvement of customs in the relevant operational actions of the OAP Firearms and ensure coordination with the driver (ES) by inviting him to the CCWP.

#### 8.4.

CCWP invited the Firearms OAP driver to make a presentation of this OAP, focusing on the cooperation with the leader of CCWP Action 8.4.

## 24. Smuggling of migrants<sup>45</sup> Responsible WP: COSI, SCIFA

#### Main documents:

- In May 2015, the Commission published the <u>EU Action Plan against Migrant Smuggling</u> setting out a series of steps to tackle this problem between 2015 and 2020.
- Council conclusions on migrant smuggling, (10-11 March 2016) (6995/16).
- Implementation 2018-2021 EU Policy Cycle for organised and serious international crime: Multi Annual Strategic Plan (MASP) for Illegal Immigration (13232/17).
- 2018 Operational Action Plan (OAP) Facilitation of Illegal Immigration (13874/1/17 REV 1 RESTREINT UE).
- Europol's two-year activity report from the European Migrant Smuggling Centre (EMSC) (9811/18).

#### State of play/progress made:

A thematic discussion took place in COSI on 26 June 2018 and the Committee confirmed the way ahead for optimising the use of EU tools to fight migrant smuggling while building on the progress achieved so far (10256/18). COSI also took note of presentations by Europol on the Activity report of the European Migrant Smuggling Centre and by Frontex on the Centre of excellence on Document Fraud.

#### Envisaged follow-up:

The matter is among the main priorities of the AT Presidency and progress will be pursued actively.

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Including in the context of the European Agenda on Migration (COM(2015) 240 final)

### 25. Trafficking in human beings Responsible WP: COSI, DROIPEN

Main documents:

- Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council reporting on the follow-up to the EU Strategy towards the Eradication of trafficking in human beings and identifying further concrete actions (4 December 2017) (COM(2017) 728 final).
- Conclusions of the Council of the European Union and of the Member States meeting within the Council on addressing trafficking in human beings (THB) for labour exploitation Council conclusions (9 June 2016) (9938/16).
- Implementation 2018-2021 EU Policy Cycle for organised and serious international crime: Multi Annual Strategic Plan (MASP) for THB (14146/1/17 REV 1).
- 2018 Operation Action Plan (OAP) THB (15852/17 RESTREINT UE).
- Report from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council on the progress made in the fight against trafficking in human beings (2016) as required under Article 20 of Directive 2011/36/EU on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings and protecting its victims (COM(2016) 267 final)
- Report from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council assessing the extent to which Member States have taken the necessary measures in order to comply with Directive 2011/36/EU on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings and protecting its victims in accordance with Article 23 (1) (COM(2016) 722 final)
- Report from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council assessing the impact of existing national law, establishing as a criminal offence the use of services which are the objects of exploitation of trafficking in human beings, on the prevention of trafficking in human beings, in accordance with Article 23 (2) of the Directive 2011/36/EU (COM(2016) 719 final)

State of play/progress made:

COSI took note on 21 February 2018 of the presentation by the EU anti-trafficking coordinator of the Commission communication on reporting on the follow-up to the EU Strategy towards the eradication of trafficking in human beings and identifying further concrete actions (15438/17). All actors involved should ensure that the use of resources is optimised so that duplication is avoided.

Envisaged follow-up:

Continue monitoring the implementation of the OAP 2018 on THB and the implementation of the measures outlined in the COM Communication, e.g. the need for a global awareness campaign that would involve all relevant actors, enhancing the protection of victims at the borders and the importance of the involvement of EEAS capabilities and tools in addressing challenges posed by this form of crime.

	1.3. Preventing and fighting cybercrime and enhancing cybersecurity	
26.	Budapest Convention (ratification, 2nd Additional Protocol) Responsible WP: HWP on Cyber	
	Main documents:	
	Budapest Convention on cybercrime.	
	State of play/progress made:	Envisaged follow-up:
	Still 2 MS remain to ratify the Budapest Convention.  Advancement of the 2nd additional protocol drafting with active participation of MS as leaders or members of various drafting subgroups. Informal coordination of the EU position for the moment given the lack of proposal for a negotiating mandate by the COM.	Continuous
27.	Cyber related challenges Responsible WP: HWP on Cyber, COSI  • Whois • Emergency response protocol for coordinated EU LEA response • Roadmap on dark web • CGN Address translation and on-line attribution  Main documents:  • The EU's fight against cybercrime: EU law enforcement response - Presidency report (28 November 2017) (14762/17) • Reform of the domain name WHOIS - Draft lines to take - Approval (23 January 2018) (5506/18).	
	<ul> <li>Letter sent from the Commission to the Chair of ICANN on the WHOIS system. WHOIS system (13 February 2018) (WK 1687/2018 INIT).</li> <li>EU Law Enforcement Response to Cybercrime (07 May 2018) (WK 5430/2018)</li> </ul>	

State of play/progress made:

Discussions ongoing in the HWP on Cyber associating considerations from other interested communities, e.g. law enforcement, data protection, overall internet governance developments, on to the temporary specification for top-level domain registration data adopted by ICANN and implemented by the registries and registrars which affected the access to the WHOIS for LEA purposes. The Commission organised three expert meetings (on 3 and 10 July and 10 September) to assess various issues raised in this context (legal basis for requesting access to the database and responding to the requests, authorities authentication, definition of reasonable access, protection of investigations' confidentiality and of personal data) and possible solutions (either part of the ICANN process or complementary ones at international, EU or national level).

Europol briefed COSI SG and HWP on Cyber about the progress achieved on the draft EU Law Enforcement Emergency Response Protocol (LEERP) in addressing transnational cyber-attacks which is in preparation. A workshop was held at Europol on 30 April 2018.

Europol also informed at the same meeting about creation of a team dedicated to Dark Web within EUROPOL/EC3 presented a Roadmap on the dark web where the main goal is to align the different efforts already existing on this matter in several OAPs (firearms, CSE, drugs, etc.). These efforts concentrates on upscaling the law enforcement capacities (tools, tactics, trainings) to face illicit activities on the Dark web and on conducting targeted high impact joint operations. A workshop was organized by the agency and the Presidency on 29 May 2018 to discuss the matter and identify next steps, including the organization of a horizontal cyber patrolling week.

*Envisaged follow-up:* 

Work concerning WHOIS developments will continue under the AT Presidency.

The draft LEERP will be submitted to Member States and subsequently to COSI for endorsement. Once endorsed, it will be tested in a joint exercise.

Continue developing the Roadmap on the dark web under the EU Policy Cycle umbrella (OAP on cyberattacks).

Work concerning online attribution and CGN address translation will continue, focusing on supporting IPv6 wider adoption and working with Internet access/content providers to circumvent the attribution limitation due to CGN.

#### **Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Responsible WP: COSI** Main documents: • Implementation 2018-2021 EU Policy Cycle for organised and serious international crime: Multi Annual Strategic Plan (MASP) for CSE (13233/17). 2018 Operation Action Plan (OAP) CSE (14289/1/17 REV 1 RESTREINT UE). Improved EU Law Enforcement Capability to Address Online Child Sexual Exploitation" - Europol note (8 February 2018) (5932/18) and Exchange of views (12 February 2018) (5933/18) • EU Law Enforcement Response to Cybercrime (07 May 2018) (WK 5430/2018) State of play/progress made: Envisaged follow-up: The improvement of EU law enforcement capability to address Europol will inform COSI about the developments in this matter. If child sexual exploitation online in the context of the use of needed, COSI will provide further guidance automatic detection and filtering technologies was discussed in COSI on 21 February 2018. On 23 March 2018 Europol organised a dedicated workshop in the EU Policy Cycle Framework to discuss recurring challenges in identifying and safeguarding the child victims of these crimes as well as in identifying and apprehending offenders (WK 5430/18)

# 29. Monitor the implementation of the EU Cybersecurity strategy Responsible WP: HWP on Cyber

Main documents:

- Action plan for the implementation of the Council Conclusions on Commission Joint Communication on Resilience, Deterrence and Defence (XXX/17)
- Progress report by the BG Presidency (doc. 10216/18)

State of play/progress made:

The BG Presidency has worked towards improving the resilience and maintaining high standards in the area of cybersecurity in the EU, taking into account the need to strengthen the trust of the European citizens and enterprises in the digital space. A progress report with the main achievements was presented to the HWP on Cyber in June outlining inter alia the Council conclusions on malicious cyber activities adopted in April, the general approach on the proposed Cybersecurity Act agreed by the Council in June, the conclusions on EU external cyber capacity building guidelines and conclusions on EU coordinated response to large-scale cybersecurity incidents and crises approved by COREPER in June and adopted by the Council later on.

*Envisaged follow-up:* 

Update on the progress once per Presidency semester

### 30. Hybrid threats

**Responsible WP: FoP Hybrid** 

Main documents:

- Joint communication to the European Parliament and the Council: "Joint Framework on countering hybrid threats a European Union response", (6 April 2016) JOIN(2016) 18 final.
- Joint Report to the European Parliament and the Council on the implementation of the Joint Framework on countering hybrid threats a European Union response (28 July 2017) (11539/17).
- Council Conclusions on EU Coordinated response to Large Scale Cybersecurity Incidents and Crises (10086/18).

	State of play/progress made:	Envisaged follow-up:
	FoP Hybrid Threats was specifically created in July 2018 to address those issues.	Jointly work towards the development of European Cybersecurity Crisis Cooperation
	Hybrid threats will be addressed in the scope of the table-top exercise for the HWP on Cyber on the framework for a Joint EU Diplomatic Response to Malicious Cyber Activities in the context of the EU HEX- ML18 (PACE) exercise that is planned by the AT Presidency to be held before the end of their semester.	
31.	EU Position in international fora Responsible WP: HWP on Cyber	
	Main documents:  Draft Lines to Take to the UN GGE (doc.11783/18)	
	State of play/progress made:	Envisaged follow-up:
	To be discussed on 7/9/2018 in the HWP on Cyber	Adoption by COREPER
32.	Directive on network and information security Responsible WP: TELECOM WP	
	Main documents:	
	<ul> <li>Directive (EU) 2016/1148 concerning measures for a high common level of security of network and information systems across the Union (OJ L 194, 19.7.2016, p. 1).</li> <li>Commission Communication "Making the most of NIS – towards the effective implementation of Directive (EU) 2016/1148 concerning measures for a high common level of security of network and information systems across the Union" (12205/17 + ADD1 REV 1).</li> </ul>	
	State of play/progress made:  Deadline for transposition expired on 9 May 2018. COM provided as part of the 2017 cybersecurity package a Communication aiming to facilitate the implementation process. By end of June, eight Member States have notified full and 4 partial transposition.	Envisaged follow-up: In view of the deadline for the identification of operators of essential services (9 November 2018), the Commission will provide Member States with technical guidance concerning the mandatory information to be shared.

33.	Directive on combatting fraud and counterfeiting of non-cash means of payment Responsible WP: DROIPEN	
	Main documents:	
	Commission proposal for a Directive on combating fraud and counted	erfeiting of non-cash means of payment (12181/17).
	State of play/progress made:	Envisaged follow-up:
	The Council reached a general approach in March 2018. It is expected the EP to define its position at the September plenary.	The first trilogue will take place on 25 September, another trilogue is also currently planned. The Presidency aims at finalising this file by the end of its term.
	2. Cross-cutting priority areas	
	Information exchange and interoperability	
34.	eu-LISA Regulation Responsible WP: DAPIX	
	Main documents:	
	Proposal for a Regulation on the European Agency for the operational management of large-scale IT systems in the area of freedom, security and justice, and amending Regulation (EC) 1987/2006 and Council Decision 2007/533/JHA and repealing Regulation (EU) 1077/2011(10820/17)	
	State of play/progress made:	Envisaged follow-up:
	Political agreement reached with the EP on 7 June 2018 BG PCY.	Final adoption by the EP and the Council is scheduled for October 2018.  The Commission adopted on 3 September 2018 a proposal for a Council Decision on the signing, on behalf of the EU, of the Arrangement with the Kingdom of Norway, the Republic of Iceland, the Swiss Confederation and the Principality of Liechtenstein, on the participation by those States in the European Agency for the operational management of large-scale IT systems in the area of freedom, security and justice and a proposal for a Council Decision on the conclusion of this Arrangement. The Council decisions will be adopted shortly.

35.	Interoperability proposals		
	Responsible WP: DAPIX		
	<ul> <li>Main documents:</li> <li>Amended proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on establishing a framework for interoperability between EU information systems (borders and visa) and amending Council Decision 2004/512/EC, Regulation (EC) No 767/2008, Council Decision 2008/633/JHA, Regulation (EU) 2016/399, Regulation (EU) 2017/2226, Regulation (EU) 2018/XX [the ETIAS Regulation], Regulation (EU) 2018/XX [the Regulation on SIS in the field of border checks] and Regulation (EU) 2018/XX [the eu-LISA Regulation] (10178/18)</li> <li>Amended proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on establishing a framework for interoperability between EU information systems (police and judicial cooperation, asylum and migration) and amending [Regulation (EU) 2018/XX [the Eurodac Regulation],] Regulation (EU) 2018/XX [the Regulation on SIS in the field of law enforcement], Regulation (EU) 2018/XX [the ECRIS-TCN Regulation] and Regulation (EU) 2018/XX [the eu-LISA Regulation] (10190/18)</li> </ul>		
	State of play/progress made: A mandate for negotiations with the European Parliament was reached at Coreper on 14 June 2018 (10453/18)	Envisaged follow-up: A revised mandate for negotiations with the European Parliament will be presented at Coreper in September 2018 (11312/18)	
36.	Monitoring and implementation of the Roadmap on information exchange Responsible WP: COSI, DAPIX FoP on interoperability		
	<ul> <li>Main documents:</li> <li>Roadmap to enhance information exchange and information management including interoperability solutions in the Justice and Home Affairs area: - Update following Council Conclusions on interoperability (14750/17)</li> <li>Third implementation report of the Roadmap to enhance information exchange and information management including interoperability solutions in the Justice and Home Affairs area (7931/18).</li> </ul>		
	State of play/progress made: COSI endorsed the Annual Implementation report on the Interoperability Roadmap at its meeting on 26 June 2018.	Envisaged follow-up: The implementation of remaining actions will follow mainly after the adoption of various pieces of legislation including the Interoperability proposal.	

36	<b>Monitoring of the Data Protection Law Enforcement Directive</b>	
a.	Responsible WP: DAPIX	
	Main documents: The minutes of the meeting of the Commission expert group on Regulation (EU) 2016/679 and Directive (EU) 2016/680, available at: <a href="http://ec.europa.eu/transparency/regexpert/index.cfm?do=groupDetail.groupDetail&amp;groupID=3461">http://ec.europa.eu/transparency/regexpert/index.cfm?do=groupDetail.groupDetail&amp;groupID=3461</a>	
	State of play/progress made: Implementation deadline 6 May 2018: so far 11 MS (DE, IE, HR, IT, LT, LU, MT, AT, SK, SE, UK) have communicated to COM the measures they have adopted to transpose the Directive fully, and 3 (CZ, FR, PT) partially.	No envisaged follow-up
37.	Monitoring of the PNR Directive Responsible WP: DAPIX	
	Main documents: 5501/18, 7815/1/18, 10139/18: reports on the informal working group on PNR (IWG PNR) under DE chair; 8160/18, 10206/18: 14th and 15th COM progress report towards an effective an genuine Security Union; Report on the Conference on future of PNR / Sofia (6104/18);	
	State of play/progress made: Implementation deadline 25 May 2018: 14 MS (BE, HR, EE, DE, HU, IE, IT, LV, LT, LU, MT, PL, SK, UK) have communicated to COM the measures they have adopted to transpose the Directive; more details on the state of play set out in 10206/18. Infringement proceedings launched on 19 July 2018. As of 11 September 2018: 17 full transpositions (AT, BE, BG, DE, FR, HR, HU, IE, IT, LV, LT, LU, MT, PL, SE, SK, UK) and two partial (CZ and EE).	Envisaged follow-up: Continuation of IWG PNR meetings at expert level under FR chair; continuation of meetings at expert level with COM on application of PNR. Completeness and conformity assessment of the national transposition measures, realised by COM and an external contractor.

38.	Prüm decisions Responsible WP: DAPIX	
	Main documents:	
	State of play/progress made: Completion of HR (DNA) access to automated data exchange Regular update on increase of bilateral connections between operational MS Consultation on the negotiation of agreements with CH and LI on the application of certain Prüm provisions  Envisaged follow-up: Finalisation of GR (VRD), Consultation of EP concerning HR (FP), IE (DNA, FP, VRD), IE (VRD), UK (DNA, FP VRD) as to their access to automated data exchange: Implementation of certain Prüm provisions in NO Completion of negotiation with CH and LI on the application of certain Prüm provisions Launch of discussion on technical features of second Prüm generation Launch of COM feasibility study on improving information exchange under the Prüm Decisions.	
39.	Prüm training needs analysis Responsible WP: DAPIX	
	Main documents: 6807/1/17: outcome of survey on Prüm training needs	
	State of play/progress made:  Re-drafting and completion of CEPOL online learning module	Envisaged follow-up: No follow-up envisaged
40.	Develop/implement information management strategy Responsible WP: DAPIX	
	Main documents: 6742/18 (document sets out the list of actions and the documents referring to the state of play of their implementation	
	State of play/progress made: Adoption of action list No 6 (6742/18), which continues with the implementation of list no 5.	Envisaged follow-up:

#### **Schengen Information System Package**

- 1) for the return of illegally staying third-country nationals;
- 41. (2) in the field of border checks;
  - (3) in the field of police cooperation and judicial cooperation in criminal matters

#### Responsible WP: Schengen Matters ("Acquis" configuration)

Main documents:

Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the establishment, operation and use of the Schengen Information System (SIS) for the return of illegally staying third-country nationals

- Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the establishment, operation and use of the Schengen Information System (SIS) in the field of border checks, amending Regulation (EU) No 515/2014 and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1987/2006
- Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the establishment, operation and use of the Schengen Information System (SIS) in the field of police cooperation and judicial cooperation in criminal matters, amending Regulation (EU) No 515/2014 and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1986/2006, Council Decision 2007/533/JHA and Commission Decision 2010/261/EU

Doc. 9146/18 + COR 1; 10890/1/18; PE-CONS 34 (to be issued), PE-CONS 35 (to be issued), PE-CONS 36 (to be issued).

#### State of play/progress made:

A political agreement in first-reading was reached during the trilogue on 13 June 2018, confirmed by Coreper on 19 June 2018 and LIBE on 20 June 2018. The lawyer-linguistic scrutiny is ongoing. The meeting with the national experts is scheduled for 24 and 25 September 2018.

Envisaged follow-up: The three Regulations would be adopted in November 2018. They would enter into force in December 2018. There are four phases for their implementation: (i) from the date of entry into force (starting of all the preparatory measures; obligation to create alerts on the basis of terrorism-related offences); (ii) after one year (Europol and Frontex will have full access to SIS); (iii) after two years (AFIS becomes mandatory); (iv) within three years (all the provisions of the three Regulations will be applicable).

# 42. SIS/SIRENE cooperation in the Fight against Foreign Terrorist Fighters Responsible WP: Schengen Matters (SIS/SIRENE configuration)

Main documents:

Council Conclusions on strengthening the cooperation and the use of the Schengen Information System (SIS) to deal with persons involved in terrorism or terrorism-related activities, including foreign terrorist fighters (9691/18) (see measure 3)

State of play/progress made:

The Council Conclusions were adopted on 4 June 2018. Their implementation is ongoing. It covers actions related to FTF. In particular, COM is invited to determine, with the active participation and agreement of experts from the Member States, good practices in terms of follow-up procedures for hits on persons involved in terrorism or terrorism-related activities, including foreign terrorist fighters under Article 36 [of Decision 2007/533/JHA]; incorporate these into the SIS/SIRENE Best Practices Catalogue and amend the SIRENE Manual, if necessary; and CEPOL is invited to continue developing training programmes for end-users of SIS, on the basis of the SIRENE Manual and Best Practices Catalogue, on the topic of persons involved in terrorism or terrorism-related activities, including foreign terrorist fighters, who are the subject of alerts in SIS.

Under BG Presidency, a discussion was held on the use of SIS channels for data comparison with PNR, as well as the relationship with PIUs. Progress has been made as regards the necessary implementations. In some Member States, internal procedures are still pending, for instance, regarding tender procedures.

Envisaged follow-up:

Under AT Presidency the implementation of the Council Conclusions will be followed up by the SIS/SIRENE WP and/or the Heads of SIRENE. This will be carried out in cooperation with other stakeholders, in particular Europol. A joint meeting with Europol and SIS/SIRENE representatives from the Member States would be convened to address the practical implementation of the Council Conclusions and the future functionalities in the framework of the new SIS Regulations (see also measure 3). The relationship between SIS/SIRENE, PNR and PIU would be further discussed at SIS/VIS Committee and followed up by SIS/SIRENE WP.

#### **Capacity building of SIRENE bureaux Responsible WP: Schengen Matters (SIS/SIRENE)** 43. Main documents: • Development of the SIRENE Bureaux in the framework of the Schengen Information System - Council conclusions (7 December 2017) (15560/17). Questionnaire on the implementation of the Council Conclusions on the development of the SIRENE Bureaux in the framework of the Schengen Information System (SIRENE capability building) (11602/18) State of play/progress made: *Envisaged follow-up:* During the meeting of the Heads of SIRENE in Sofia, on 11-13 Under AT Presidency the implementation of the Council June 2018, Member States reported on the progress made on this Conclusions will be followed up by the SIS/SIRENE WP and/or the matter. Still ongoing. A draft questionnaire to make an annual Heads of SIRENE. A questionnaire is to be circulated (11602/18), assessment was agreed. on the basis of which an annual assessment will be made **Implementation of AFIS in SIS** Responsible WP: Schengen Matters (SIS/SIRENE) Main documents: • Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) component of the SIS - Procedure for matches on fingerprints' (11527/18) State of play/progress made: A discussion was launched at WP on 10 July 2018 in order to find a *Envisaged follow-up:* common approach to establish an automated notification procedure On the basis of the discussions held at WP on 10 July 2018, a new to inform all the end-users when a match occurs on the basis of questionnaire has been circulated (11527/18). The discussions will dactyloscopic data, even before the procedures and consultations continue on the basis of the answers to the questionnaire, to be between Member States pursuant to the SIRENE Manual have been submitted by September. completed.

## 45. Extension of ECRIS to third country nationals Responsible WP: COPEN

*Main documents:* 

- Proposal for a Directive amending Council Framework Decision 2009/315/JHA, as regards the exchange of information on third country nationals and as regards the European Criminal Records Information System (ECRIS), and replacing Council Decision 2009/316/JHA (5438/16 + ADD 1 + ADD 2)
- Proposal for a Regulation establishing a centralised system for the identification of Member States holding conviction information on third country nationals and stateless persons (TCN) to supplement and support the European criminal records information system (ECRIS-TCN system) and amending Regulation (EU) No. 1077/2011 (10940/17 + ADD 1)

State of play/progress made:

On 19 January 2016, the Commission submitted a legislative proposal to upgrade ECRIS. On 29 June 2017, the Commission presented a supplementary legislative proposal for a Regulation establishing a centralised system, taking into account the recommendations of the High Level Expert Group on Information Systems and Interoperability, issued in May 2017.

Council reached a general approach on both documents in December 2017. Texts are currently being negotiated between Council and EP.

Envisaged follow-up:

Agreement is likely to be reached in autumn 2018. Subsequently, the Commission has to adopt implementing acts and ECRIS-TCN has to be set up by eu-LISA, in cooperation with the Commission and the Member States.

#### Availability of data

### Data retention

#### Responsible WP: DAPIX - (FoP on data retention)

#### Main documents:

• Retention of electronic communication data (14480/1/17)

#### State of play/progress made:

Following the work completed under the BG presidency, the AT Presidency continued the common reflection process on restricted data retention ("1st level of interference") by examining in the DAPIX working party meeting on 10 July 2018 the limited storage periods and the requirements for data security (storage in the territory of the Union and storage in an encrypted fashion/pseudonymisation). The exchange demonstrated the different approaches applied in this regard by Member States.

#### Envisaged follow-up:

At the DAPIX working party meeting on 11 September 2018 the Presidency focused on the targeted access to retained data ("2nd level of interference") and started a policy debate on the substantive and procedural legal requirements for access to retained data. On 19 November CATS is expected to discuss data retention.

### 47. E-evidence

#### Responsible WP: COPEN (E-evidence), CATS, HWP on Cyber (Practical Measures)

#### Main documents:

Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on European Production and Preservation Orders for electronic evidence in criminal matters (8115/18)

Proposal for a DIRECTIVE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL laying down harmonised rules on the appointment of legal representatives for the purpose of gathering evidence in criminal proceedings (8110/18)

#### State of play/progress made:

Negotiations ongoing with 1st reading of both proposals being completed. A number of issues raised by delegations that would require serious consideration and clarification in the texts. Discussion of possible extension of the scope to cover direct access and real-time interception was held in the June JHA Council. To follow-up COM will organise an expert meeting on 26 September on interception. The link with US CLOUD Act in particular with regard to the comity clause was debated during the informal meeting of the JHA Ministers in July 2018.

*Envisaged follow-up:* CATS will discuss the mechanism for solving conflicting obligations of service provider envisaged in the draft Regulation.

COM will report to the October JHA Council on the results of the expert meeting on interception and a policy debate on selected issues stemming from the course of negotiations will be held.

48.	Encryption Responsible WP: HWP on Cyber Issues, CATS	
	Main documents: 11th and 13th Security Union Progress Report.	
	State of play/progress made: Following the request by the JHA Council of December 2016 the COM presented a number of initiatives in the 11th Security Union Progress Report. An update on the state-of-play of all the six measures was presented to the HWP on Cyber. (COM had provided one-time sum to Europol to develop further their decryption capacity and to CEPOL for training, working to create a network of points of expertise and an observatory of the developments of encryption techniques and their use by criminals, to set up a toolbox of alternative techniques; to continue the dialogue with industry, civil society organisations and other stakeholders under the EU Internet Forum). Following the European Council Conclusions of June 2017 the Commission also looked at the possible solutions to end-to-end encryption in several expert meetings together with MS experts on 25 April 2018. Given their request for more technical information COM organised, together with Europol a meeting to discuss with the experts possible ways forward to this issue which would not prohibit, limit or weaken encryption.	Envisaged follow-up: Discussion envisaged in CATS with possible follow-up in the December JHA Council.
	Anti money laundering, asset recovery, financial crime	
49.	Directive Money laundering - criminal law Responsible WP: DROIPEN  Main documents:	
	Main accuments:	
	State of play/progress made: The text was finalised by the Legal Linguists in July and will be voted by the EP at the September plenary.	Envisaged follow-up: It will be included in the agenda of the October JHA Council as an item for final adoption.

50.	Mutual recognition of freezing and confiscation orders Responsable WP: COPEN	
	<ul> <li>Main documents:</li> <li>Proposal for a Regulation on the mutual recognition of freezing and confiscation orders (15816/16 + ADD 1 + ADD 2 + ADD 3)</li> </ul>	
	State of play/progress made: Political agreement between the European Parliament and the Council was reached in June 2018. Text is now being examined by lawyer-linguists (PE-CONS 38/18).	Envisaged follow-up: Adoption of the Regulation is foreseen in autumn 2018. "Implementation" deadline is 24 months.
51.	Monitor the implementation of mutual recognition instruments Responsible WP: COPEN	
	<ul> <li>Main documents:</li> <li>Timeline (WK 1374/2018). Action is also taken in specific fields, e.g. concerning the Directive on the European Investigation Order (9738/18 REV 1).</li> </ul>	
	State of play/progress made: Continuous action, in collaboration with the Commission. Timeline is constantly being updated.	Envisaged follow-up: Continuous
52.	LEA access to financial information	
	<ul> <li>Main documents:</li> <li>COM proposal for a Directive on the use of use of financial and other information for the prevention, detection, investigation or prosecution of certain criminal offences (8411/2018)</li> </ul>	
	State of play/progress made: The Draft Directive has been discussed at expert level in the LEWP on 8 June and 23 July 2018. The third meeting is scheduled for 12 September 2018.  In the EP, it remains to be clarified during September 2018 whether a single report will be adopted by the LIBE Committee or whether LIBE will have to share responsibilities with ECON. This might have a substantial impact on the schedule to be followed (in case of two separate reports, trilogues are unlikely to start before the end of 2018).	Envisaged follow-up: A fourth meeting of the LEWP might be required on 15 October 2018. Should the text be relatively stabilised after the meeting on 12 September, some fine-tuning might take place at JHA Counsellors' level with a view of submitting the text to the October JHA Council for General Approach.

53.	Action plan on financial investigations Responsible WP: LEWP	
	<ul> <li>Main documents:         <ul> <li>Council Conclusions and Action Plan on the way forward with regard to financial investigation - Council conclusions (9 June 2016) (10125/16).</li> <li>Council Conclusions and Action Plan on the way forward with regard to financial investigation - mid-term progress report (11 December 2017) (13382/1/17).</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
	State of play/progress made: Mid-term progress report adopted in November 2017.  Envisaged follow-up: No specific follow-up foreseen in 2018, further monitoring of implementation during 2019.	
	Improving operational cooperation	
54.	Europol Regulation Responsible WP: LEWP	
	Main documents: Regulation (EU) 2016/794 on the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Europol) (OJ L 135, 24.5.2016, p. 53–114)	
	State of play/progress made: On 11 May 2016, the co-legislators adopted Regulation (EU) 2016/794 on the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Europol), which provides a new legal basis for Europol.	Envisaged follow-up: Implemented
55.	European Border and Coast Guard Regulation Responsible WP: Frontiers	
	<ul> <li>Main documents:</li> <li>Regulation (EU) 2016/1624 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 September 2016 on the European Border and Coast Guard and amending Regulation (EU) 2016/399 of the European Parliament and of the Council and repealing Regulation (EC) No 863/2007 of the European Parliament and of the Council, Council Regulation (EC) No 2007/2004 and Council Decision 2005/267/EC (OJ L 251, 16.9.2016, pp. 1-76).</li> </ul>	

	State of play/progress made: On 14 September 2016 the co-legislators adopted the new Regulation setting out the mandate of FRONTEX.  The Executive Director of Frontex presented in COSI on 21 February 2018 the Annual Risk Analysis (ARA) for 2018, focusing on the main trends and featuring analysis of four aspects: terrorism and border control, impact of cross-border crime, trafficking in human beings (THB) and processing of personal data.	Envisaged follow-up: Implemented The Commission is going to submit a proposal on 11-12 September 2018, with a view to further enhancing the mandate of FRONTEX and facilitate the procedures for the implementation of the European Integration Border Management.
56.	Eurojust Regulation Responsible WP: COPEN	
	Main documents: PE-CONS 37/18	
	State of play/progress made:	Envisaged follow-up:
	Agreement with the EP has been reached at the political trilogue	Lawyer linguist revision ongoing
	that took place on 19th June 2018. COREPER confirmed the final revised consolidated text of draft Eurojust Regulation on 20th June 2018	Adoption by EP and Council by November.
57.	EPPO Regulation Responsible WP: COPEN	
	Main documents:  Council Regulation (EU) 2017/1939 of 12 October 2017 implementing enhanced cooperation on the establishment of the European Public Prosecutor's Office ('the EPPO')  OJ L 283, 31.10.2017, p. 1–71	
	State of play/progress made:	Envisaged follow-up:
	Adopted	Follow the setting up the EPPO

58.	Responsible WP: COSI, CCWP	
30.		
	<ul> <li>Main documents:</li> <li>Enhancing Customs contribution to internal security (7705/2/18)</li> <li>This document presents a number of areas where cooperation between customs authorities, police and other specialised law enforcement</li> </ul>	
	authorities, police and other specialised law enforcement authorities and Frontex, could be stepped up as a part of an integrated approach	, as well as the interaction with relevant JHA agencies, e.g. Europol to security.
	State of play/progress made: On 15 May 2018, COSI expressed broad support for putting forward a more structured approach for enhancing customs contribution to internal security and to develop further the proposed work strands outlined in 7705/2/18 REV 2. It tasked the CCWP in close cooperation with LEWP, Europol, Frontex, associating where relevant CUWP to work on the specific measures, while taking into account the applicable legal frameworks both at Union and national level. In CCWP, the AT Presidency introduced a structured approach with a series of thematic discussions in plenary meeting, based on questions in a Presidency note prepared in advance for each meeting. On 5 July 2018, the first thematic discussion was held at the CCWP on cooperation with Europol.	Envisaged follow-up: The thematic discussions will continue in the CCWP. A joint meeting with LEWP is scheduled to take place on 8 November.
59.	Cooperation between LEA and national security authorities Responsible WP: COSI, TWP	
	Main documents:	
	State of play/progress made: Regular debriefs at COSI and the JHA-Council by Europol and the CTG on the state of play of cooperation with CTG services.	Envisaged follow-up: Continuous

60.	Cooperation between JHA agencies on CT Responsible WP: TWP, COSI	
	Main documents:	
	JHA agencies' role in CT (6146/18+ADD1+ADD1 EXT1) and discuss	ssion papers 7871/18 and 8482/18
	State of play/progress made:	Envisaged follow-up:
	Discussions in TWP and COSI during the BG Presidency	Next steps to be defined under the AT Presidency
61.	Expert groups and Networks related to the LEWP Responsible WP: LEWP	
	Main documents:	
	• Guidelines for networks: 15572/17	
	<ul> <li>Overview of LEWP networks and their strategic objectives: 11055/18.</li> </ul>	
	State of play/progress made:	Envisaged follow-up: After the adoption of Council conclusions on
	Work on the Networks' strategic objectives is currently a regular	the strengthening of the ATLAS Network (15627/17), a permanent
	topic in the LEWP. The LEWP continuously monitors the work of	
	its networks and provides the necessary input and orientation.	Europol. Further enhancements are being discussed in the LEWP
	Recent initiatives include the strengthening of ATLAS and	on the basis of the above conclusions (pooling of expensive
	CULTNET networks.	equipment, training centres of excellence etc.)
62.	JHA Agencies' network Responsible WP:COSI	
	Main documents:	
	• Final report on the JHA Agencies' cooperation for 2017 (101)	17/18).
	State of play/progress made:	Envisaged follow-up:
	The final report on the JHA Agencies' cooperation for 2017 was published (10117/18). It was submitted by EMCDDA, which	Implementation of the thematic areas and horizontal areas of the network (led by EIGE) for 2018.
	provided the secretariat of the JHA Agencies' network in 2017.	To hold agencies' Directors meeting in November 2018.

63.	Europol agreements with third countries Responsible WP: LEWP	
	Main documents:  • 9320/18 + ADD 1  • 9330/18 + ADD 1  • 9331/18 + ADD 1  • 9332/18 + ADD 1  • 9333/18 + ADD 1  • 9334/18 + ADD 1  • 9339/18 + ADD 1  • 9342/18 + ADD 1	
	State of play/progress made: Council Decisions, authorising the opening of negotiations with all eight of the third countries concerned, have been adopted together with their respective negotiating Directives.	Envisaged follow-up: The Commission is set to open the negotiations with countries identified as priority ones still in 2018 (Turkey, Israel, possibly Tunisia, Morocco).
64.	Strengthening the links between external and internal dimension of security Responsible WP: COSI / PSC	
	<ul> <li>Main documents:         <ul> <li>Crime Information Cell Pilot Project: Identifying challenges and opportunities for the exchange of information between EUNAVFOR MED Operation Sophia and JHA agencies (6 March 2018) (6440/18)</li> <li>Council Decision (CFSP) amending Decision (CFSP) 2015/778 on a European Union military operation in the Southern Central Mediterranean (EUNAVFOR MED operation SOPHIA) (7708/18)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
	State of play/progress made:	Envisaged follow-up:
	The members of PSC and COSI discussed at a joint lunch meeting on 21 February 2018 the state of play of the CSDP -JHA cooperation.  The JHA Council endorsed on 8 March 2018 the principle of the participation of EU JHA agencies in a pilot project for a crime information cell in operation Sophia.	Following the activation of the CIC on 5 July 2018, and upon the completion of the CIC trial period, an overall assessment on the Cell's performance to identify potential operational and legal problems and results will be produced by the Operations Commander (OPCDR) and the CIC Coordinator, jointly with Agencies. This report will be presented to both PSC and COSI.

The Council (GAC) adopted on 14 May 2018 a decision allowing for the creation of a crime information cell (CIC) within EUNAVFOR MED Operation Sophia.

COSI took note on 15 May 2018 of a presentation by the EEAS on the steps taken following the last JHA Council on 8 March 2018 on the pilot project for a CIC.

EEAS also informed COSI on 26 June 2018 that following the endorsement of the amended OPLAN of operation Sophia by PSC on 21/06/18, all legal conditions were already in place, so the Pilot project could be effectively launched in the beginning of July 2018.

The CIC was activated on 5 July 2018 and five specialised personnel from Europol, Frontex, and EUNAVFOR Med were embarked on board of flagship of EUNAVFOR Med operation Sophia.

EEAS debriefs COSI on the state of play of the ongoing reflection on strengthening the capacity of the CSDP civilian missions.

EEAS to update COSI on the works towards a "Civilian CSDP Compact" and the Civilian Capabilities Development Plan (CCPD)

## 65. Integrative Internal Security Governance (IISG) Responsible WP: COSI

#### Main documents:

- Council Conclusions on strengthening the EU internal security's external dimension in the Western Balkans including via the Integrative Internal Security Governance (IISG) (8 December 2016) (15413/16)
- IISG in the Western Balkans draft Integrative Plan of Action for the Western Balkan Counter Serious Crime Initiative (WBCSCi) (5934/18)

#### State of play/progress made:

COSI endorsed on 21 February 2018 the input to the draft action plan for the Western Balkan Counter-Serious Crime initiative and the proposed measures for improving synergies with the Policy Cycle in particular.

At the National EMPACT Coordinators (NEC) meeting held at Europol on 25 April 2018, representatives from Albania, FYROM, Montenegro, Serbia and the Chair of the Integrated Internal Security Governance (IISG) were present during a session dedicated dedicated session to the External Dimension of EU Internal Security with a focus on the Western Balkans.

#### Envisaged follow-up:

The IISG Support Group will organise on 5 and 6 September 2018 in Belgrade a workshop with Drivers and Action Leaders who consider the Western Balkans to be an area of interest; the outcomes of the workshop are to be reported to COSI, including possible synergies, challenges faced and ideas which could be implemented in the EU Policy Cycle 2018-2021.

#### 3. Enhancing security at the external borders

### 66. Entry/Exist System Regulation Responsible WP: Frontiers

#### Main documents:

Regulation (EU) 2017/2226 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 November 2017 establishing an Entry/Exit System (EES) to register entry and exit data and refusal of entry data of third-country nationals crossing the external borders of the Member States and determining the conditions for access to the EES for law enforcement purposes, and amending the Convention implementing the Schengen Agreement and Regulations (EC) No 767/2008 and (EU) No 1077/2011 (OJ L 327, 9.12.2017, p. 20–82)

State of play/progress made:

On 20 November 2017 the Council adopted the Regulation for an entry-exit system and the regulation amending the Schengen border code in relation to the entry-exit system. This system will register identity data as well as entry, exit and refusal of entry information of third country nationals crossing the external borders of the Schengen area. eu-LISA, together with the member states, is expected to start building the new system, which should be operational by the end of 2020.

Envisaged follow-up:

Work has been pursued - mainly in the context of the Smart Borders Committee - in order to adopt all the necessary Implementing Decisions which will allow eu-LISA to proceed with the technical implementation of the system, including the relevant calls for tender.

With a view to implementing the EES necessary steps are being taken in other relevant fields, such as the adaptations of the bilateral agreements that some Member States had stipulated with third countries allowing their citizens to prolong their stay in the Member State in question.

### 67. ETIAS Regulation

**Responsible WP: Frontiers** 

Main documents:

- Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS) and amending Regulations (EU) No 515/2014, (EU) 2016/399, (EU) 2016/794 and (EU) 2016/1624 (14082/16)
- Final text of the Regulation to be published (PE-CONS 21/18 + PE-CONS 22/18).

State of play/progress made:

A political agreement was reached with the EP in April 2018 (7986/1/18 REV 1). Following the confirmation of such agreement by the EP Plenary in July and by the Council early September, the ETIAS Regulation should be published in the OJ by mid-September 2018. [TBC]

*Envisaged follow-up:* 

COM intends to table a proposal amending the ETIAS Regulation and the legislative acts of the IT systems that ETIAS will consult for the purpose of the automated processing of ETIAS applications in Q4 of 2018. The changes to be presented by COM are necessary to enable ETIAS to consult VIS, SIS, EES, Eurodac, Europol data and ECRIS-TCN.

In parallel, work will be pursued - mainly in the context of the Smart Borders Committee - in order to adopt all the necessary implementing and delegated acts which will allow eu-LISA to proceed with the technical implementation of the system, including the relevant calls for tender.

68.	Temporary reintroduction of controls at the internal borders Responsible WP: Frontiers	
	Main documents:	
	• Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EU) 2016/399 as regards the rules applicable to the temporary reintroduction of border control at internal borders (16 May 2018) (8741/18).	
	State of play/progress made:	Envisaged follow-up:
	The relevant proposal was submitted by the Commission on 27 September 2017. On 19 June 2018 Coreper agreed on a mandate to the Presidency for negotiations with the European Parliament. The main elements of the relevant compromise are linked with the total period allowed internal controls for the same reason (one year), as well as on the procedure for the reintroduction/prolongation(s) of internal border controls, aiming at trust-building elements in the application of such controls.	Once the LIBE Committee adopts its Report and completes its internal procedure, the trilogues are going to begin (provisional scheduled to start by early October).
	False documents	
<b>69.</b>	<b>Responsible WP: Frontiers (False documents)</b>	
	Main documents:	
	<ul> <li>Questionnaire on the implementation of common minimum security standards related to the security of issuing processes (9231/18).</li> <li>Council Conclusions on the Commission Action plan to strengthen the European response to travel document fraud (30 March 2017) (7696/17).</li> <li>COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL Action plan to strengthen the European response to travel document fraud (08 December 2016) (COM(2016) 790 final).</li> </ul>	
	State of play/progress made:	Envisaged follow-up:
	On-going implementation of actions contained in the Action plan by Member States and the Commission	Assessment of Commission's report on the implementation of the Action plan.

70.	Common risk indicators	
70.	Responsible WP: Frontiers	
	Main documents:	
	Frontex booklet was updated in January 2018	
	State of play/progress made:	Envisaged follow-up:
	In June 2015, the Commission finalised a first set of common risk indicators, concerning foreign terrorist fighters, to detect terrorist travels. Common risk indicators and guidance from FRONTEX now support the work of national border authorities when conducting checks on individuals.	Implementation
	Improving security features of ID cards	
71.	Responsable WP: Frontiers	
	<ul> <li>Main documents:</li> <li>Proposal for a Regulation on strengthening the security of identity cards of Union citizens and of residence documents issued to Union citizens and their family members exercising their right of free movement (8175/18 +ADD 1+ADD 2)</li> <li>Opinion of the European Data Protection Supervisor (11629/18)</li> <li>State of play/progress made:</li> </ul>	
	On 17 April 2018 COM submitted a proposal for the draft Regulation. The Presidency continues the examination of the proposal with the objective to agree on a negotiating mandate with the EP by October.	Envisaged follow-up: Negotiations with the EP could start in November/ December 2018.