# COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES



Brussels, 28.6.2006 COM(2006) 332 final

# COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE COUNCIL AND THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Evaluation of EU Policies on Freedom, Security and Justice

{SEC(2006) 815}

### COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE COUNCIL AND THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

# **Evaluation of EU Policies on Freedom, Security and Justice**

#### 1. Introduction

- The Hague **Programme** (2004)<sup>1</sup> states that "evaluation of the implementation as well 1. as of the effects of all measures is, in the European Council's opinion, essential to the effectiveness of Union action". The Action Plan implementing The Hague Programme (2005)<sup>2</sup>, which sets out a policy framework for the European Union activities on freedom, security and justice over the next five years, provides for the adoption, in 2006, of a general Communication from the Commission on how to develop an evaluation mechanism at EU level in this area<sup>3</sup>.
- 2. The Heads of State and Government had identified evaluation of implementation as a key tool to ensure that the significant results achieved by the Union and its Member States on the development of an Area of Freedom, Security and Justice are properly implemented and constantly reviewed, where appropriate, in order to respond to the real expectations of European citizens.
- 3. By underlining the importance of evaluation, The Hague Programme aimed at (1) further improving the way policies, programmes and instruments are set up. by identifying problems and obstacles encountered when implementing them, (2) laying down more systematic rules on the **financial accountability and scrutiny** of policies, (3) favouring learning and exchanges of good practice and (4) participating in **developing an evaluation culture** across the Union.

In view of (1) the **mandate** given to the Commission by The Hague Programme and its Action Plan, (2) the fragmentation of existing monitoring and evaluation mechanisms and (3) the need to transmit **extensive information** to all stakeholders on the implementation and results of policies, the Commission considers that the time has come to work towards setting up a coherent and comprehensive mechanism for evaluation of EU policies on freedom, security and justice, in a spirit of partnership with Member States and EU institutions.

Annex 1 to the Presidency Conclusions of the Brussels European Council, November 2004.

Council and Commission Action Plan implementing the Hague Programme on strengthening freedom, security and justice in the European Union (OJ C 198, 12.8.2005, p. 1).

The Action Plan also calls for a Communication on the systematic, objective and impartial evaluation of the implementation of EU policies in the field of justice, with a view to reinforcing mutual trust while fully respecting the independence of the judiciary. Later this year the Commission will present a further Communication which will address this issue in detail, in accordance with the general principles established in this Communication.

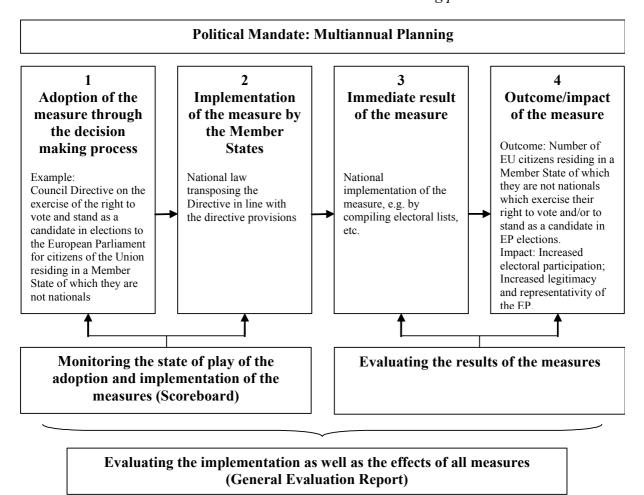
Such a mechanism will include monitoring implementation (as detailed in the Communication on "Strengthening Freedom, Security and Justice in the European Union: report on the implementation of The Hague Programme for the year 2005", hereafter the "Scoreboard plus")<sup>4</sup> and evaluating the results of the policies.

#### 2. THE CONCEPT OF EVALUATION

- 4. A distinction must be drawn between the principles of monitoring implementation and of evaluation:
  - Monitoring implementation consists of reviewing progress on carrying out policies.
  - The Communication on Evaluation presented by the Commission in 2000<sup>5</sup> defines evaluation as "judgement of interventions (public actions) according to their results, impacts and the needs they aim to satisfy". The main role of evaluation is to provide policy-makers with input about the impact and effectiveness of activities planned and carried out.
- 5. The Commission interprets the mechanism referred to in the Action Plan as a means of monitoring implementation and evaluating the concrete results of policies on freedom, security and justice. In this context, evaluation goes beyond and builds up on monitoring implementation of policies by studying the effects of implementation, as outlined below. This is in line with The Hague Programme since the concept of "evaluation of the implementation as well as of the effects of all measures" encompasses both monitoring implementation itself and evaluating the results of the measures taken.
- 6. This is the rationale for the Commission to propose a coherent and comprehensive package built around two pillars: the "Scoreboard plus" for monitoring implementation and the evaluation mechanism proposed in this Communication.
- 7. The mechanism put forward in this Communication is based on this comprehensive definition which, in the Commission's view, should allow a full understanding of the quantity and quality of results achieved on freedom, security and justice. Such a mechanism would operate within the framework of the principles established in The Hague Programme. Ultimately this should improve policy-making, by promoting systematic feedback of evaluation results into the decision-making process.

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#### 3. EVALUATING EU POLICIES ON FREEDOM, SECURITY AND JUSTICE - CHALLENGES TO BE ADDRESSED

#### 3.1. Complex and ambitious policy goals and arrangements

- 8 Freedom, security and justice is one of the EU's most diverse policy areas. The objectives to be achieved encompass some of the most topical issues: free movement of persons, terrorism and organised crime, police and judicial cooperation, asylum and migration policy, all of this while respecting fundamental rights and promoting the rights of Union citizens. Often national sovereignty considerations necessitate compromises at EU level or make implementation difficult. Therefore, any new evaluation mechanism will have to take account of this political context.
- 9. The complex and ambitious policy goals sought are further complicated by a sometimes confusing legal framework, a mix of decision-making and compliance procedures.

To accommodate this complexity, the proposed evaluation mechanism needs to be progressive and to include possibilities for further development and consolidation.

#### 3.2. **Timing**

As a result of the specific role of the Commission and the decision-making process in 10. the freedom, security and justice field, the various policies often require different time frames before they can be developed and become fully operational. A case-bycase approach is therefore necessary to identify the right level of analysis for each individual policy. While immediate and intermediate results will be taken into consideration for all policies, analysing the practical impact could be more difficult for some of them (e.g. drugs or migration policies).

The proposed evaluation mechanism should allow sufficient flexibility for differentiated in-depth evaluation of specific policies, taking due account of their level of development and consolidation.

Focusing on immediate and intermediate results therefore seems appropriate, at least in the first stage. Identification of the overall impact of policies must be the ultimate objective of the evaluation mechanism in the longer term.

#### 3.3. Involving institutions and stakeholders

- 11. Another unique aspect of freedom, security and justice is the impact of policy on stakeholders. Any evaluation mechanism in this field must take into consideration stakeholders' expectations and priorities and, in particular, the need for **confidentiality** in some policy areas, such as terrorism and organised crime.
- 12 In a spirit of partnership, the Commission will consult and debate with Member States and EU institutions during and after preparation of the evaluation report. To that end, Member States and EU institutions will be invited to designate contact **points** to facilitate dialogue with the Commission. The evaluation report<sup>6</sup> will be public and addressed to the Member States and EU institutions.
- 13. The Council and the Member States together with the Commission will be the main players in the proposed evaluation mechanism. The European Parliament will be closely associated, in compliance with the institutional prerogatives and obligations. National Parliaments will also be involved in evaluation of the regular reports.
- 14. In the areas covered by the EC Treaty, the Committee of the Regions and the European Economic and Social Committee will be involved in preparation and implementation of the evaluation mechanism. Evaluation reports will be routinely transmitted to the Committees after adoption.
- 15. Agencies such as the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA), Europol, Eurojust or the European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at the External Borders will play an important role in the mechanism. First, they will feed the evaluation exercise with information and analysis when available. Second, the Commission will consult them on the evaluation reports.

Cf. paragraph 30.

16. The contribution of civil society will be very valuable in this context. The Commission will ensure that the views of the civil society will be taken into account and will establish appropriate mechanisms to ensure its participation in the evaluation of all policies in the area of freedom, security and justice.

The proposed evaluation mechanism should include transparent consultation mechanisms, which could also be used to gather and cross-check relevant information.

#### 3.4. **Availability of statistics**

Availability of statistics<sup>7</sup> and of the necessary analytical capacity is a key 17. component in the development of an evaluation system. While statistics are welldeveloped for some activities (e.g. drugs policy), further work needs to be done in other areas, such as crime and criminal justice<sup>8</sup>. Statistics on evolution of the needs addressed by policies on freedom, security and justice will be required as baseline data to assess whether existing needs are attenuated or aggravated by a policy over time and, ultimately, to be able to draw conclusions about the impact of policies. Improvements should be made in three areas: quality, availability and analysis. Work by agencies, including the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA), Eurojust, Europol and the future Fundamental Rights Agency, will play a special role in this context. Research projects and networks will also contribute to this objective.

Consequently, in parallel with setting up the proposed evaluation system, improvements will have to be made to the quality, availability and analysis of statistics on freedom, security and justice.

#### 4. EVALUATING EU POLICIES ON FREEDOM, SECURITY AND JUSTICE - PROPOSAL FOR A STRATEGIC EVALUATION MECHANISM

#### 4.1. **Description of the evaluation mechanism**

18. The proposed strategic evaluation mechanism for freedom, security and justice builds upon the consolidated results achieved in other areas of EU policy. Such a mechanism would build on current practices, as described in Annex 2, and, in the specific case of funding programmes, use information derived from existing evaluation requirements. Also, in other areas where information is already available particular attention will be paid to making use of existing data and avoiding duplication of work.

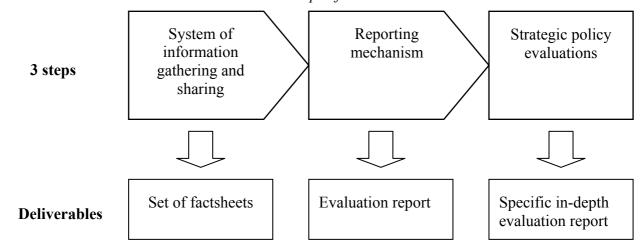
#### 19. A three-step progressive mechanism is proposed:

The production of Community statistics is governed by the rules set out in Council Regulation on Community Statistics, and actions on the establishment of Community statistics are carried out according to the Community Statistical Programme and its Annual Programmes, respecting the principles set out in the European Statistics Code of Practice.

To this end, the Commission is planning to adopt an EU plan on developing a comprehensive and coherent EU strategy to measure crime and criminal justice. The ultimate goal will be to have community statistics based on harmonised definitions and collection and reporting mechanisms.

- (1) First, it provides for setting up a system for information gathering and sharing.
- (2) Second, it includes a **reporting mechanism** which consolidates, uses and analyses this information.
- Third, it is completed by targeted in-depth strategic evaluations. (3)

Box 2: The three steps of the mechanism



- 20. The mechanism will be comprehensive and will encompass all policies in the area of freedom, security and justice<sup>9</sup>.
- Evaluation reports<sup>10</sup> will be transmitted to the Council and European Parliament and 21. also to the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions and disseminated as appropriate to wider audiences, including via ad-hoc public events.
- 22. By enhancing reporting and dissemination of evaluation results, the mechanism ultimately seeks to foster actual use of the results at the decision-making level.
- 23 The mechanism is consistent with current Commission guidance on evaluation and will operate in conformity with its general principles.
- 4.1.1. Information gathering and sharing system
- 24 The information gathering and sharing system will be based on "factsheets" (one for each policy area) which will be filled in by the Member States' competent authorities. In areas for which information is already available in a similar format, the Commission will fill in the factsheets in advance as far as possible. In parallel, the factsheets will be put out to **consultation** with relevant stakeholders<sup>11</sup> and civil society. Consultations will be specific to each policy and will build upon existing

In the third step of the proposed mechanism, the peer review evaluation mechanism described in Annex 2, point 2.3.2 could continue to be carried out. Depending on how the current institutional framework evolves, the Commission could manage this mechanism at a later stage. In any event, the Commission will back up this mechanism with its own in-depth strategic evaluations in the areas covered by Title VI of the EU Treaty.

<sup>10</sup> Cf. paragraph 30.

<sup>11</sup> Cf. section 3.3.

- networks and consultation mechanisms, with due regard to confidentiality requirements in certain areas.
- 25. The factsheets will indicate an overall policy objective for each area and list the main instruments (legislative, non-legislative and financial) contributing to attaining that objective. The mechanism should provide a clear overview of the achievements.
- The factsheets will also provide a set of **indicators** for each policy. These indicators 26. will be clearly linked to the overall objective of the policy area. The factsheets will be an integral part of the **consultation process** which will follow publication of this document and will be finalised in partnership with Member States. Examples of the proposed factsheets are given in Annex 1 to this Communication.
- 27. The Commission intends to invite each Member State to designate **contact points** at national level. The contact points will play an important role in coordination of the response at national level and work in consultation with Commission departments.
- 28. As regards EU legislation, the indicators and the rating system in the factsheets will focus on tangible results of application of the legislation in practice not on the level of transposition into national law or the impact of EU law on the national legal systems. The latter are the main objectives of the "Scoreboard plus", which assesses transposition and implementation rather than judging the degree of achievement of the objectives.
- 29. Regarding EU funding programmes, the factsheets will build on existing **implementation and evaluation reports** produced to meet the obligations set out in the Financial Regulation and the relevant legal basis. The information required by the factsheets on funding programmes is expected to be readily available and any additional contributions required from Member States should therefore be minimal.
- 4.1.2. Reporting mechanism
- 30. Following receipt of the factsheets and consultation with stakeholders, the Commission will validate the information received and elaborate an "evaluation **report**" consolidating and analysing the information provided. This evaluation report will also include **political recommendations** regarding the different policy areas addressed.
- 31 The aim of this exercise is to evaluate the policies carried out at EU level in the area of freedom, security and justice and to identify areas suitable for an in-depth strategic evaluation.
- 4.1.3. Strategic policy evaluations
- 32. Following the evaluation report and further consultation, in-depth strategic policy evaluations can be conducted in selected areas. These evaluations will aim at producing useful and timely information as inputs for political decisions in each policy area, as appropriate.
- Strategic evaluations should add value to the current practices described in Annex 2, 33. notably by:

- (a) focusing on **policies** (or coherent sub-sets), rather than individual instruments (for instance, evaluation of the common immigration policy);
- (b) analysing the coherence of different instruments within a given policy (e.g. how financial programmes support and facilitate implementation of the EU legislation in a given field);
- investigating how a certain policy contributes to the overall objective of establishing an Area of Freedom, Security and Justice;
- determining the overall rate of achievement of that general objective; and (d)
- assessing achievement of an overarching objective in the field of freedom, (e) security and justice (for instance, safeguarding of fundamental rights).

#### 4.2. Frequency and follow-up

- 34. A set frequency makes it possible to monitor progress at regular intervals and to draw comparisons. As regards the timetable, the proposal is to conduct this evaluation exercise ("factsheets" plus "evaluation report") twice every five years. The Commission will draw on available information as far as possible.
- 35. The proposal takes into account the fact that this mechanism:
  - should be conducted on a regular basis, (a)
  - (b) should not be too burdensome.
  - does not need to be conducted every year since it focuses on slow-moving outputs and results and on medium-term data,
  - (d) should be coordinated with the **existing** strategic and multi-annual plans.
- 36. In particular, the proposed timetable would also enable the Council and the Commission to use the results of the evaluation reports as input for assessing the need to prepare a further Strategic Programme in 2009 after The Hague Programme expires.
- 37. Publishing the evaluation report every two or three years will make it possible to synchronise the mechanism with the five-year cycle. This will foster more thorough and strategic use of evaluation results in decision-making. 2006-2007 will be a transition period (see table below).
- 38 In order to coordinate with the "Scoreboard plus", the schedule is to send the factsheets to Member States at the end of 2006 and publish the evaluation report, together with the second "Scoreboard plus", in mid-2007.

Timetable	"Scoreboard plus" (SB)	Review mechanism	Action Plan
2005			Adoption of The Hague Action Plan
2006	SB+ 1		Intermediate assessment of implementation (end of 2006)
2007	SB+ 2	Evaluation report 1	First policy review
2008	SB+ 3		
2009	SB+ 4	Evaluation report 2	
2010	SB+ 5		End of The Hague programme
2011	SB+ 6		
2012	SB+ 7	Evaluation report 3	
2013	SB+ 8		
2014	SB+ 9	Evaluation report 4	

### (Transition period in grey)

- 39. An assessment of the additional administrative costs to Member States is included in the annexed impact assessment. Member States are encouraged to work, with the support of the Commission, towards data comparability and accuracy. Recent experience with the evaluation of a number of legislative instruments has shown that, at times, basic data concerning policies are neither harmonised nor accurate. Ad hoc evaluations of policies on freedom, security and justice by the Council or the Commission will be an additional source of information.
- 40. This Communication is intended to mark the start of a medium-term process. The proposed mechanism and the factsheets are presented so that comments on and improvements to them can be made in the follow-up to this Communication. To this end, a wide-ranging consultation process will be launched, including the organisation of a hearing in the autumn.
- 41. An assessment of the mechanism will be conducted after five years to decide on possible adjustments and improvements to the system. The outputs to be considered will be the deliverables identified in box 2. The assessment will be against the objectives stated in paragraph 3.

#### 5. **CONCLUSIONS**

- 42 The Commission considers it necessary to set up a coherent and comprehensive mechanism for evaluation of EU policies on freedom, security and justice, bearing in mind the current situation and the mandate given by The Hague Programme. Such a mechanism will have to be progressive and take into account the evolving institutional and legal framework, with a view to ensuring further enhancement and effectiveness of freedom, security and justice policies.
- 43. This mechanism will provide a means of bringing together individual evaluation results in a coherent framework and thereby informing political decision-making at the appropriate level. In this respect, the proposed mechanism will also provide policy-makers with relevant information in time for considering the appropriate follow-up to The Hague Programme when it expires in 2009.
- 44 The proposed mechanism will be implemented by the Commission and the Council in full compliance with their institutional prerogatives and in close association with the European Parliament. Concerted action and full commitment by EU institutions and Member States are necessary for effective establishment and implementation of the evaluation mechanism, with national authorities and administrations playing a key role in this respect.
- 45. Finally, such an evaluation mechanism will aim at making the action taken by the Union more effective and will contribute to the strategic objectives of better regulation and transparency of EU activities.

### **ANNEX 1**

### **Factsheet of JLS policies**

### POLICY AREA: EXTERNAL BORDERS, VISA POLICY AND FREE MOVEMENT OF PERSONS

**Factors influencing evaluation mechanism:** well established policy area, 1<sup>st</sup> pillar activities, there is a strong consensus amongst stakeholders for EU level action; there is a mix of instruments (legislative activities, co-operation activities, programme funding, functioning Community Agency, IT systems); possible to construct evaluation indicators, but might be hard to measure outcomes and results and causal links in practice. Methods to evaluate controls at borders are improving, including available administrative information and statistics. Some constraints on fully independent evaluation. There are strong interlinkages between the instruments within the ABB activity and strong potential for 'thematic' evaluation examining instruments in parallel.

### Policy sub-area 1: External borders

### **Objectives:**

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Develop an integrated external border management system

Ensure uniform high standards of border checks and border surveillance at EU external borders

Reduce number of illegal cross border movements of people

Further 'burden sharing' in management of external borders

# Policy sub-area level indicators:

The numbers of illegal migrants apprehended that are known to have crossed the EU external border illegally as a proportion of all third country national border crossings into EU (Source: Commission - Eurostat statistics on asylum and migration)

The difference between the numbers of illegal migrants apprehended that are known to have crossed the EU external border illegally as a proportion of

all third country national border crossings into EU through the most permeable and least permeable border. Note that this indicator would require to define the most and least permeable EU border.

The numbers of illegal migrants apprehended that are known to have crossed the EU external border illegally (Source: Commission - Eurostat statistics on asylum and migration)

The proportion of all resource commitments to external border management originating in countries without EU external borders (Source: MS)

Main	Objectives	Implementation at	Indica	stions	Specific issues	
instruments		national level	Immediate results	Outcomes	Impacts	/comments
Schengen Information System (SIS) II	Sharing of information among MS in order to refuse entry on the basis of uniform practices	further use of	Quality and a Availability of SIS II information for competent national authorities  Measured by:  Number of records per category  (Source: MS and Commission)	Success in using SIS information.  Measured by:  Number of correctly identified persons who should be refused entry and wanted goods discovered  (Source: MS)	permeability of the external border.  Increased confidence to promote 'free	Clear intervention logic.  Evaluation methods — analysis of trends and process changes.  Commission responsible for evaluation coordination and analysis, MS for information analysis. Most of the analysis will depend upon information from MS.

European Agency for the Management of Operational Co- operation at the External Borders (FRONTEX)	Improvement of operational cooperation between Member State authorities  Increased competences of border guards	Co-operation with Agency and responses to good practice, training and other advice.	Operational cooperation  Measured by:  Number of joint operations and pilot projects carried out  (Source: Agency)  Development of risk analysis  Measured by:  Number of risk analyses carried out  (Source: Agency)  Increased training  Measured by:  Number of border guards trained  Number of training courses and	Improvement of border control  Measured by:  Effective joint operations  (Source: Agency)  Increased intelligence  Measured by:  Use of risk analyses by national services  (Source: MS)  Better trained border guards  Measured by:  Use of newly acquired skills  (Source: MS)	Improved resource deployment at external borders (due to better intelligence)  Reduced permeability of external borders (due to better trained staff)	Difficult to assess causality of intervention.  Evaluation methods — case studies, follow up surveys.  EU leading the evaluation.  (Other EU Agency evaluations have tended to be process rather than impact oriented)

		seminars offered			
		(Source: Agency)			
administrative cooperation in the fields of external borders, visas,	Disbursement rate/amount spent per year	Successful implementation of programme measured by:  Number of projects implemented per activity area  Number of training actions implemented  Number of staff exchanges implemented  Number of actions promoting data exchange implemented  Number of studies, conferences and seminars conducted (Source: Commission)	Increased cooperation between national administrations and with third countries  Measured by:  Number of common operative centres and joint teams set up  Number of cooperation activities in third countries set up  (Source: Commission)	Uniform application of Community law  Improved transparency of actions taken by national authorities  Improved efficiency of national administrations	Mid-term evaluation to be completed by July 2006.

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	administrations in their tasks					
Teams of national experts	Further objectives of FRONTEX agency:  Better deployment of resources in circumstances requiring special assistance  Increased competences of border guards	l -	Provision of technical and operational assistance.  Measured by: number of assignments carried out by teams (Source: Agency)	Improved practice in border surveillance.  Measured by:  use of results of teams' work in border surveillance and efficiency of teams work (Source: Agency and MS)	external borders (due to assistance to staff)	Evaluation methods — case studies, qualitative analysis.

Policy sub-area 2: Visa policy and free movement of persons

# **Objectives:**

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Prevent illegal immigration and threats to public order

Reduce time taken and costs of acquiring visas for legitimate travellers.

Reciprocation with third countries on visa waivers.

Reduce number of visas given to travellers who become overstayers and illegal migrants

Abolish controls at internal EU borders

# **Policy sub-area level indicators:**

The average time taken from application to receipt of (a particular class of) visa (Source: MS, VIS)

The average costs (fees) for (a particular class of) visa (Source: MS, VIS)

The number of third countries where the visa requirements of nationals to enter the EU match those EU citizens visiting the country in question (Source: Commission)

The total population of third countries where the visa requirements of nationals to enter the EU match those EU citizens visiting the country in question (*Source: Commission*)

The number of EU internal border crossings that are subject to controls (Source: MS)

Main instruments	Objectives	Implementation at national level	-			Specific issues /comments
mstruments		national level	Immediate results	Outcomes	Impacts	Comments
Common application centres  (for Schengen countries)	Render the reception of visa applications more efficient through a better allocation of resources.  Reduce costs in relation to capturing of biometrics.  Harmonisation of reciprocal	Commitment to the centres.  Participation in setting up the centres.	Number of centres established and MS involved (Source: MS).  Number of visas issued through the centres (Source: MS).	Increased efficiency of providing visa services.  Measured by:  time taken to issue visas (Source: MS)  (Source: MS).  Improved use of visa related	Reduced costs to administrations.  Increased bone fide travel.	Evaluation method — efficiency analysis.  Potential evaluation leadership from the MS and use of peer review process.

	procedures by MS			information (Source: MS).		
Visa Information System	Improve the implementation of the common visa policy by the exchange of visa data between Member States, in order to prevent visa shopping, to facilitate the fight against fraud, checks on visas, to assist in the identification of illegal immigrants, to facilitate the application of the Dublin II Regulation and to contribute to the prevention of threats to internal security.	Implementation at the national level, including the development/adaptation of national systems.	Number of number of visas refused, annulled, revoked, processing times (Source: Commission).  Availability rate (Source: Commission)	Retention and sharing of data from visa applications and related decisions.  Measured by: number of entries in VIS (Source: Commission).  Measured: number of analyses conducted using VIS data (Source: Commission).	Improvement of application procedures, of checks at the external borders and within the Schengen territory, of the application of the Dublin II Regulation, of the identification of illegal immigrants and of the detection of fraud.  Facilitated legitimate travel.	Monitoring and evaluation, by the Commission at EU level.
The reciprocity mechanism (Council Regulation	To ensure EU citizens can travel without a visa to all third countries whose nationals	Co-operation with the Commission, information sharing on bilateral dialogue with	Number of third countries who have waived visa requirements for EU nationals	Improved reciprocity measured by percentage of decrease of non-	Facilitated legitimate travel for EU travelers	Diplomatic efforts on EU level vis-à- vis third countries concerned.

851/2005)	don't need a visa to travel to the EU.	third countries	(Source: Commission)	reciprocity cases  Improved dialogue and diplomatic contacts with third countries		The first Report of the Commission on reciprocity in visa waivers was adopted on 10 January 2006
Council Regulation on a Border code	To implement common rules governing the movement of persons across borders, to include both rules on checks at external borders and rules on the removal of checks on persons at internal borders and the reintroduction of such checks in certain circumstances.  To improve integrated border management	Application in MS that apply the Schengen acquis	Harmonisation of rules governing the movement of persons at internal and external borders  (Source: Commission)	Improved border management and control	Improved control of external borders  Facilitated travel within the Schengen acquis	This regulation was adopted recently – February 2006.

#### POLICY AREA: CITIZENSHIP AND FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS

### Factors influencing evaluation mechanism:

Relatively new policy area in JLS (although the citizenship policy as such is an established area in the EC/Commission activities), 1<sup>st</sup> pillar activities, a combination of instruments (legislation, funding programmes, new Community Agency). The nature of the instruments and their objectives leads to reliance on qualitative evaluation methods. However, there is scope for further improvements to the information base through surveys and the development of statistics. The objectives within the policy area are wide ranging and the sub policy areas as defined below are not distinct. There is some scope for evaluating sub sets of instruments in parallel.

Policy sub-area 1: Citizenship of the Union

# Global objectives:

Increase awareness of Union citizens of their rights and of the ways these can be enforced

Decrease any obstacles for the enjoyment of their rights by Union citizens, in particular of the right to free movement and residence

Increase participation of EU citizens in democratic life in the Union

Facilitate the diplomatic and consular protection offered to the Union citizens in third countries

### Policy sub-area level indicators:

Levels of citizens' awareness of their rights and mechanisms of redress (Source: Surveys and Eurobarometer reports)

Instances of right to free movement and residence hindered (Source: complaints made to Commission)

Rates of voting registration and participation – percentage of increase/decrease (Source: Member States)

Number of citizens standing for election to public office – percentage of increase/decrease (Source: Member States)

Instances of use and	Instances of use and complaints from EU citizens over levels of consular protection (Source: Member States)						
Main instruments	Objectives	Implementation	Indic	Indicators/evaluation questions			
		at national level	Immediate results	Outcomes	Impacts	/comments	
Directive 2004/38/EC on free movement and residence	Clarify and simplify existing Community law in field	Transposition into national legal systems	Relevant national laws adopted in line with Directive provisions and notified the Commission by 30.4.2006 together with a table of conformity. (Source: Commission)	Correct application of rules and provisions contained in the law  Measured by: number of court cases/complaints resulting from the Directive (Source: Commission)	Facilitated free movement and residence	Evaluation leadership by the EU.  Would benefit from strong involvement of MS in evaluation	
Community legislation on the EP elections and on the right of non- national Union citizens' electoral rights in their country of residence	Ensure that the EP elections are conducted according to the basic principles of democratic elections  Ensure the participation of non-national Union citizens to the EP elections and to the	Transposition into national legal systems	Relevant national laws adopted in line with provisions of Community law and notified to the Commission (Source: Commission)	Correct application of rules and provisions contained in the law  Measured by: number of court cases/complaints resulting from the legislation (Source: Commission)	EP elections carried out democratically.  Non-national Union citizens participate in the elections on the same conditions as nationals in EP elections and in municipal		

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	municipal elections				elections.	
Fundamental Rights and Citizenship programme (part Citizenship)	Improve awareness of citizenship of the Union and related rights  Encourage citizens to participate to actively to democratic life	Implementation of measures and projects.	Number of projects supported (studies conducted, activities undertaken)  (Source: programme monitoring system)  Number of 'beneficiaries' reached  (Source: programme monitoring system)	Improved intelligence base  Measured by:  use of analytical results by policy makers (Source: Commission and MS)  Dissemination of good practice in voter education and activation.  Measured by:  level of awareness of Programme's outputs (Source: MS)	Improved awareness of Union citizenship and related rights amongst EU citizens.  Increased participation in democratic life.	Clear intervention logic. Evaluation would benefit from systematic surveys of public awareness.

Policy sub-area 2: Fundamental Rights

# **Global objectives:**

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Increase the awareness of fundamental rights amongst citizens. (This concerns the rights as protected on European Union and national level including the relevant regional and international instruments.)

Decrease instances of breaches of fundamental rights (including breaches of privacy, personal data protection and protection from violence against

children, women and youth)

Reduce the instances of racism, anti-semitism and xenophobia

Establish a Fundamental Rights Agency (from EUMC)

Increase number of participants in and their commitments to civil society

### **Policy sub-area level indicators:**

Levels of citizens' awareness of fundamental rights (Source: Surveys and Eurobarometer reports)

Instances of breaches of fundamental rights, especially as a result of EU interventions (including breaches of privacy, personal data protection and protection from violence against children, women and youth) (Source: Commission and FR Agency)

Instances of racism, anti-semitism and xenophobia (Source: FR Agency)

Time commitments of population to participation in civil society (Source: MS)

Number of civil society organisations in NMS since accession (Source: MS)

Main instruments	Objectives	Implementation at national level	Indicators/evaluation questions			Specific issues /comments
		at national level	Immediate results	Outcomes	Impacts	/comments
Relevant provisions of the Treaties on European Union and on European Community	institutions and the Member States fully respect	and practices with	legislation as well as implementing	of rights and principles	Decreased level of breaches of FR  Increased protection of rights of citizens	

				cases/complaints resulting from the legislation (Source: Commission		
Fundamental Rights and Citizenship programme (part Fundamental Rights)	Improve awareness of FR  as protected on European and national level  Improve research base  Improve intensity and quality of interfaith and intercultural dialogue in MS  Improve tolerance in the EU  Improve quality of civil society organisations  Improve rule of law  Decrease breaches	Implementation of measures and projects.	Number of projects supported (studies conducted, activities undertaken)  (Source: programme monitoring system)  Number of 'beneficiaries' reached (Source: programme monitoring system)	Improved intelligence base  Measured by:  use of analytical results by policy makers (Source: Commission and MS)  Increased awareness of issues in focus under the action (Source: public opinion surveys, Commission)	Improved awareness of FR amongst EU citizens  Stronger civil society in the MS	Clear intervention logic. Evaluation would benefit from systematic surveys of public awareness.

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	of FR in MS					
Preparatory action to support civil society in the NMS in areas of rule of law, democracy, FR, media pluralism, fight against corruption.	Improve quality of civil society organisations in NMS Improved rule of law in NMS Improve democracy in NMS Decrease breaches of FR in NMS	Implementation of measures and projects.	Number of projects supported (studies conducted, activities undertaken)  (Source: programme monitoring system)  Number of beneficiaries reached (Source: programme monitoring system)	Increased awareness of issues in focus under the action (Source: public opinion surveys, Commission)	Stronger civil society in the NMS	Clear intervention logic but difficult to measure outcomes and impacts, in part because of the scale and scope of the underlying objectives.  Strong involvement of MS in evaluation
Daphne II programme	Reduce violence against children, adolescents and women	Implementation of measures and projects.	Number of projects supported (studies conducted, activities undertaken) (Source: programme monitoring system)  Number of good practices identified (Source: programme monitoring system)	Increased awareness of the issues in wider society (Source: public opinion surveys, Commission)  Adoption of good practice in tackling violence (Source: MS).  Better intelligence	Reduced violence against children, adolescents and women	Evaluation leadership by the EU.  Major problems of data reliability at the level of impacts.

			Number of 'beneficiaries' and victims reached  (Source: programme monitoring system)	base.  Measured by:  use of analytical results by policy makers (Source: Commission and MS)  Number of knowledge and practitioner communities created (Source: Commission).  Number of improved facilities for victims (Source: programme monitoring system)		
Fundamental Rights Agency	Improve the availability, quality, and comparability of information on respect and promotion of FR.	Participation in Agency's activities	Provision of data and analyses of FR.  Measured by: number of analytical outputs (Source: Agency)	Better intelligence base. Measured by: use of analytical results by policy makers (Source: Agency and Commission)	Decreased level of breaches of FR	Evaluations of EU agencies have tended to focus on process issues.  Whilst objectives are clear it will be difficult to assess

	Improve co- ordination between stakeholders  Improve public awareness of their FR		Number of reporting activities (Source: Agency).  Number of networks of stakeholders supported (Source: Agency).	Better co- ordination of activities.  Increased public awareness (Source: public opinion surveys, Agency and Commission).		causality and measure the impacts of the agency.
Data Protection Directive	Facilitate the free movement of personal information within the EU  Protect rights of individuals  Conclude agreements with third countries	Transposition of Directive into national legal systems  Establishment of National Protection Supervisory authorities	Relevant national laws adopted pursuant to the Directive provisions  (Source: MS and Commission)	Application of rules and provisions contained in the law.  Measured by: - Appropriate enforcement mechanisms and remedies available to ensure respect for the law and assistance to individuals through:  a) Judicial remedies  b) Intervention of data protection	Facilitated movement of personal information within the EU  Harmonised protection of individuals at a high level (both inside the EU and in third countries for personal data transferred from the EU)	Evaluation leadership by the EU but in partnership with MS

		supervisory authority (ex officio or following complaints)	
		(Source: MS)	

#### POLICY AREA: COORDINATION IN THE FIELD OF DRUGS

**Factors influencing evaluation mechanism:** Activities in this policy area are cross pillar and cover a variety of areas, including health, police cooperation, information, evaluation and coordination.

The EU Drug Action Plan and EU Drug Strategy are very important documents endorsed by the Council as the basic policy framework for all drugs issues within the EU and within the context of the EU's external relations. They cover all activities in this policy area and provide the guidelines for all Member States to implement the objectives and actions they contain into national policy. The Action Plan takes its lead from the objectives of the EU Drug Strategy and translates these objectives into 80 concrete actions. It concentrates on the two major aspects of drug policy, demand reduction and supply reduction, and also covers a number of cross-cutting themes: international cooperation, research, information and evaluation. It includes actions within EU competence (public health, precursor control, money laundering and development aid) as well as close cooperation between Member States and partnerships with international organisations.

The Action Plan furthermore covers monitoring and evaluation and includes assessment tools and indicators for each action. The actions covered by the Action Plan are subject to an annual progress review by the Commission's services. Evaluation in this area is already well-established through the methods and indicators developed during the evaluation of the previous EU Drugs Strategy and Action Plan. Reliable data is available from the European Monitoring Centre on Drugs and Drug Addiction, Europol and the Commission. As with other policies relating to complex, global sociopolitical issues, the evaluation of the impacts of EU drug policy is a problematical and sensitive matter due to the multiple factors that have to be taken into account and for which there may not be reliable data by their very nature (e.g. figures for trafficking in illicit drugs are always rough estimates; corruption caused by trade in drugs is hidden, etc.).

# **Objectives:**

To significantly reduce the prevalence of drug use among the population and to reduce the social harm and health damage caused by the use of and trade in illicit drugs, and to strengthen international cooperation (EU Action Plan on Drugs 2005-2008)

### **Policy-level indicators:**

The EU Action Plan contains the major legal instruments such as the Council Decision on the information exchange, risk assessment and control of new psychoactive substances, or the Framework Decision on penalties for drug trafficking. It also contains the assessment tools and indicators required for the evaluation process of these instruments and all other actions. These have been drawn up in cooperation with the

EMCDDA and Europol, who will help the Commission to keep track of implementation.

On this basis the Commission will publish an Annual Progress Review and if necessary propose adjustments. Responsibility for implementation of actions and deadlines are clearly indicated in the Plan. To keep implementation on track, targets whose deadlines have passed or are unlikely to be met will be subject to recommendations for their implementation or identification of failure to implement. The Commission will carry out an impact assessment in 2008 in view of proposing a second Action Plan for 2009-2012. A final evaluation of the Strategy and the Action Plans will be carried out by the Commission in 2012. These evaluations will go beyond the strict confines of the Action Plan and will include, on the basis of the work of the EMCDDA and Europol, a general view of the evolution of the drugs situation in Europe.

### POLICY AREA: COMMON IMMIGRATION AND ASYLUM POLICIES

**Factors influencing evaluation mechanism:** New policy area. 1<sup>st</sup> pillar activities. Interventions include legislation, programmes and cooperation activities. Good, comparable data is required and is planned. MS consensus about broad aims but not at individual instrument level. Impacts of these instruments on third-countries, and in particular development countries, to be considered.

Policy sub-area 1: Common European Asylum System

# **Objectives:**

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To establish a common asylum procedure and uniform status,

To facilitate practical and collaborative cooperation,

To address pressures on asylum systems and reception capacities.

# Policy sub-area level indicators:

Number of asylum seekers applying for asylum in Member States other than the country of first entry (Source: Eurodac)

Instances of MS breaching minimum defined standards (Source: Commission)

Differences in standards of reception between Member States (Source: Commission)

Differences between Member States with regard to the average time taken to determine the outcome of an application for asylum (Source: MS and Commission)

Comparison of asylum acceptance rates among Member States<sup>12</sup> (Source: Commission - Eurostat)

Differences in the level of capacity per Member State (asylum systems and reception facilities) relative to needs (Source: Member States)

Main instrument (and type of	Objectives	Implementation at national level	Indica	ators/evaluation qu	Specific issues /comments	
(and type of instrument)		at national icvei	Immediate results	Outcomes	Impacts	/comments
Dublin Regulation	To reduce 'asylum	Adoption of measures	Number of take back requests (Source:	Decreased delay in the	Increased sharing of responsibility	Numbers are available
(Council Regulation (EC) No 343/2003	shopping'	implementing the Regulation at	Commission – Eurostat)	examination of claims and	Greater efficiency and	through Eurodac which allows for
of 18 February 2003 establishing the	To increase responsibility	national level	Number of applicants	attribution of responsibility	effectiveness in implementing decisions	an assessment of trends.
criteria and mechanisms for	sharing among		sent to another Member State (Source:	Measured by:	on transfers	Evaluation of the 'Dublin

Asylum acceptance rates can at the moment only be roughly estimated with the data currently available, as asylum decisions in one year often relate to applications made in earlier years.

determining the Member State responsible for examining an asylum application lodged in one of the Member States by a third-country national)	MS.  To increase efficiency by granting MS a realistic period in which to implement decisions on transfers.	Commission Eurostat)  Number of multiple claims (Source: Commission — Eurostat)  Number of registered irregular entrants (Source: Commission — Eurostat)  Proportion of cases dealt within country of entry (Source: Commission — Eurostat)	average delay of examination before and after implementation of the Regulation (Source: MS)  Decreased delay to implement decisions on transfers  Measured by:  average delay of transfer before and after  (Source: MS)	Reduction of persons making multiple claims	System' will be ready in June 2006.
Eurodac	To facilitate application of the Dublin Regulation by identifying asylum seekers and persons who have entered the EU irregularly.  To determine whether a	•	Increased number of asylum applications being examined in the first country of asylum/entry  Measured by:  Percentage rate of change before	Improved efficiency in applying the Dublin Regulation	Difficult to judge whether MS use system correctly and systematically. Some scope for peer review but there could be constraints on independent evaluation. Evaluation is

	foreign national has previously claimed asylum in another MS.		Eurodac)	and after introduction of the system (Source: MS)  Reduction of persons making multiple claims  Measured by:  Percentage rate of change before and after (Source: MS)		underway of the 'Dublin system' which considers both the Regulation and Eurodac.
Qualification Directive  (Council Directive 2004/83/EC of 29 April 2004 on minimum standards for the qualification of third country nationals and stateless persons as refugees or as persons who otherwise need international protection and the	To ensure a minimum level of protection in all Member States for those in need of protection.  To guarantee the rights of persons qualifying for refugee status or subsidiary protection status  To reduce	Transposition into national legal systems.	Reduction of disparities among Member States  Measured by:  Changes made to national legislation (Source: MS and Commission)  Numbers of Member States achieving minimum standards or above (Source: Commission)	Reduction of false claims  Measured by:  Number of unfounded cases (Source: MS)  Improved protection  Measured by:  Numbers granted refugee and subsidiary	Guarantee of a minimum level of protection across the EU  Approximation of rights granted to refugees  Reduction in disparities between legislation and practice  Reduction of secondary movements	Common standards difficult to achieve as Directive allows scope for interpretation

content of the protection granted)	disparities between MS' legislation and practice.  To limit secondary movements.  To prevent false claims.			protection status (Source: MS)  Improved access to rights  Measured by:  Increased numbers of refugees accessing education, services, employment, appropriate accommodation, integration programmes (Source: MS)	Fewer false claims Improved integration	
Reception Directive (Council Directive 2003/9/EC of 27 January 2003 laying down minimum standards for the reception of asylum seekers)	Ensure a dignified standard of living to asylum seekers across the EU.  Address applicants special needs.	Transposition into national legal systems	Improved facilities  Measured by:  Expenditure on the improvement of reception facilities (Source: MS)  Improvement of equal standards across the EU	Improved standard of living for asylum seekers  Measured by:  Number of asylum seekers living in appropriate	Approximation of standards of living for asylum seekers across the EU  Improved facilities and services for asylum seekers  Improved sociovocational integration	Common standards difficult to achieve as Directive allows scope for interpretation.  Evaluation due at the end of 2006.

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	Ensure equal standards across the EU.  Limit secondary movements.		Measured by:  Numbers of MS achieving minimum standards or above (Source: Commission)	accommodation (Source: MS)  Number of asylum seekers accessing services (Source: MS)  Number of asylum seekers accessing employment and vocational activities (Source: MS)  Number of specific provisions for applicants with special needs (Source: MS)	of asylum seekers  Reduction of secondary movements	
ERF II	Support and encourage efforts in receiving refugees and displaced persons	Disbursement rate/amount spent per year	Increased reception capacity  Measured by:  Numbers of projects implemented per type of action (Source: MS)	Increased balance of effort among MS Measured by:  The proportion of all resource commitments	Improved reception standards and conditions  Increased access of asylum seekers to health, housing, education, services and	Indicators have been developed in the context of the final evaluation.

among MS  Promote balance in the efforts to receive asylum seekers  Promote the social, economic and cultural integration of target groups  Promote voluntary return  be considered to the social seekers  No in the efforts to receive asylum seekers  No in the effort asylum seekers	country of origin and carget group) per type of action (Source: MS)  Number of reception places (Source: MS)  Increased capacity of services to asylum seekers  Measured by:  Number and type of services available (Source: MS)  Increase econocultur integrating target Measured by:  Summer and type of services available (Source: MS)	eased social, fair and efficient groups asured by:  eentage of cons per target ap and wity able to y new skills percentage of cons who effited from ational	airer and more fective asylum rocedures (including eturn)  an improved balance in ffort to receive asylum eekers	
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Policy sub-area 2: Legal and illegal migration

Objectives: To establish admission procedures capable of responding to fluctuating demands for migrant labour

## **Policy sub-area level indicators:**

Skill shortages in vocations and professions (Source: Commission - Eurostat, MS Labour Force Surveys, EEO)

Employment rates amongst migrant groups (Source: Commission - Eurostat, MS Labour Force Surveys)

Estimation of the numbers of migrants overstaying the duration of their work permits (Source: MS)

Main instrument	Objectives	Implementation	<u>-</u>			Specific issues
(and type of instrument)		at national level	Immediate results	Outcomes	Impacts	/comments
Family reunification Directive  (Council Directive 2003/86/EC of 22 September 2003 on the right to family reunification)	conditions for the exercise of the right to family reunification by	Transposition into national legal systems.	Reduction of disparities among Member States  Measured by:  Changes made to national legislation (Source: MS and Commission)  Numbers of MS achieving minimum standards or above (Source: Commission)	Improved efficiency of procedures  Measured by:  Number of family members reunited (Source: MS)  Reduced length of process: average delay before and after (Source: MS)	Facilitated procedures for family reunification  Protection of right to family life	Common standards difficult to achieve as Directive allows scope for interpretation.

Directive on status of TCNs as long-term residents	Approximate national laws by creating a single status.  Ensure equal treatment of TCNs throughout the EU.	national legislation (Source: MS and Commission)  Numbers of MS achieving minimum	Equal treatment of TCNs  Measured by:  Numbers granted/refused status (Source: MS)  Increased number of TCNs accessing	Approximation of national laws  Equal treatment and application of uniform rights for TCNs across the EU  Improved mobility of TCNs  Improved integration of TCNs	Common standards difficult to achieve as Directive allows for scope for interpretation
		standards or above (Source: Commission)	accessing employment, education and training (rate of increase) (Source: MS)  Increased mobility of TCNs  Measured by:  Number of TCNs moving from one MS to another (Source: Commission)	TCNs	

Directive on the admission of TCNs for the purposes of studies, pupil exchange, unremunerated training or voluntary service	Europe as a	into national	Approximation of national legislation  Measured by:  Changes made to national legislation (Source: MS and Commission)  Numbers of MS achieving minimum standards or above (Source: Commission)	Increased mobility of TCNs to the Community for the purposes of study/vocational training  Measured by:  Numbers granted entry for study/vocational training/voluntary service (Source: MS)	Approximation of national laws  Improved mobility of TCNs for study, vocational and volunteer purposes	Common standards difficult to achieve as Directive allows for scope for interpretation
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**Policy sub-area 3:** Integration of third-country nationals

## **Objectives:**

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To prevent the isolation of certain groups and achieve successful integration of Third Country Nationals and their descendents

To fight discrimination against legally residing Third Country Nationals

To promote the exchange of experience and information

# **Policy sub-area level indicators:**

Instances of discrimination (Source: FR Agency, MS)

Employment rates of third country nationals (Source: Commission - Eurostat, MS)

Employment rates of second generation migrants (Source: SOPEMI Report, MS)

Relative income levels of third country nationals (Source: Commission - Eurostat, MS)

Proportion of third country nationals living in poverty (Source: Commission - Eurostat, MS)

Main instrument	Objectives	Implementation at national level	1			Specific issues
(and type of instrument)		at national level	Immediate results	Outcomes	Impacts	/comments
INTI preparatory actions (integration of TCNs)	Promote new and innovative ways of integrating immigrants.  To encourage co-operation between MS and the creation of transnational partnerships and networks.	Disbursement rate/amount spent per year	Successful implementation REFINE  Measured by:  Numbers of projects and activities implemented and average sums of money involved (Source: MS + Commission)  Number of TCNs	Identification of new and innovative practices  Exchange of information and best practices promoted among EU MS  Transnational networks and dialogue between	Increased cooperation among MS through networks and cooperation activities  Increased dialogue with civil society  Enhanced integration of TCNs  Development and promotion of a European framework	mainly at regional and local levels in MS.

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Enhance	benefiting from projects	stakeholders supported among	approach on integration of TCNs	experience.
empowerment of migrants.	Increased cooperation	MS		Potential impacts may not
Promote dialogue with civil society.	Measured by:  Number of transnational networks set up (Source: MS + Commission)  Number of new integration models identified and exchanged among MS			be significant considering that this is a small fund with very diverse projects.  Final evaluation is planned for 2007.

Policy sub-area 4: External dimension of asylum and migration

**Objectives:** Assist third countries in migration management, intensify MS cooperation to manage migration flows and prevent humanitarian crises, integrate migration into third country relations, develop policies that link migration, development cooperation and humanitarian assistance, intensify cooperation with third countries on southern and eastern border of EU

### **Policy sub-area level indicators:**

Increase/decrease over a 5-year period of:

Numbers of legal migrants by third country (Source: Commission - Eurostat)

Numbers of illegal migrants by third country intercepted crossing an external border (Source: Commission – Eurostat)

Numbers of visa overstayers by third country intercepted (Source: MS)

Numbers of asylum applications by third country (Source: Commission - Eurostat)

Numbers of failed asylum applications by third country (Source: Commission - Eurostat)

Numbers of failed asylum seekers returning to country of origin /other third country (Source: MS)

Number of victims of trafficking from third countries (Source: MS)

Main instrument	Objectives	Implementation	Indicators/evaluation questions			Specific issues
(and type of instrument)		at national level	Immediate results	Outcomes	Impacts	/comments
Programme for financial and technical assistance to third countries (AENEAS)	and complementary	Not applicable (action is at Community level)	Successful implementation  Measured by;  Number of information campaigns organised on advantages of legal migration/consequences of illegal migration in third countries (Source: Commission)  Number of returnees benefiting from reintegration programmes (Source: Commission)	Development of legislation in third countries  Measured by:  New legislation passed in third countries on legal and illegal migration (Source: Commission)  Decreased number of illegal migrants entering the EU  Measured by:	Improved management of migration flows  Decrease in illegal migration and trafficking  Increased awareness in third countries on advantages of legal migration/consequences of illegal migration  Successful reintegration of returnees	High number of external factors to the programme influence impact indicators. Causality links difficult to establish.  As action is at Community level, MS will not contribute to evaluation.  May be difficult to evaluate as this is a new area which is also

Raise public awareness in third countries on advantages of legal migration and consequences of illegal migration	rate of decrease (Source: Commission)	highly political.  A Communication on the future of the AENEAS fund was adopted in January 2006.
Establishment in third countries of preventive policy in the fight against illegal migration  Readmission and durable reintegration of returnees		

Policy sub-area 5: Return and re-admission

**Objectives:** To establish an effective removal and repatriation policy based on common standards for persons to be returned in a humane manner and with full respect for their human rights and dignity.

# **Policy sub-area level indicators:**

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Increase/decrease over a 5-year period of:

Proportion of failed asylum seekers (and illegal migrants) who are repatriated (Source: MS)

Numbers returned to countries subsequently deemed unsafe within a period of two years (Source: MS)

Numbers (of labour market age) in employment in country of origin 12 months after being subject to return

Main instrument	Objectives	Implementation	Indica	Indicators/evaluation questions			
(and type of instrument)		at national level	Immediate results	Outcomes	Impacts	/comments	
Preparatory actions for Return Management	To support efforts made by MS to improve the organisation and implementation of integrated return management and specific measures in the area of return management  To increase knowledge and capabilities in the area of return management  To develop cooperation between MS with respect to	Disbursement rate/amount spent per year	Number of actions implemented relating to the introduction and improvement of the organisation and implementation of integrated return management (Source: Commission)  Number of actions implemented relating to the introduction and improvement of specific measures in the area of return management (Source: Commission)  Number of actions implemented relating to the increase of knowledge and capabilities in the area of return management	Increased number of returnees  Measured by: rate of increase (Source: MS and Commission)  Reduction in cost of detaining illegal migrants  Measured by: rate of reduction (Source: MS and Commission)	The strengthening of efforts made by Member States at improving the organisation and implementation of integrated return management  Improved organisation and implementation of integrated return management  Increased knowledge and capabilities in return management  Increased cooperation between MS and countries of return with respect to return management		

	return management as well as co- operation with countries of return  To promote sustainable return, thereby avoiding secondary movements		(Source: Commission)		Reduction in illegal migrants living in the Member States (overstayers)  Increased removal of illegal third country nationals  Decrease secondary movements  Improved return conditions	
Re-admission agreements	To facilitate the readmission to their own country of persons residing without authorisation in a Member State.  To combat illegal immigration  To improve the effectiveness of return	(These are reciprocal agreements between the EU and third countries.)	Successful implementation of the agreements  Measured by:  Number of persons readmitted to third countries covered by the agreements	Increased number of returnees  Measured by: rate of increase (Source: Commission and MS)  Reduction in cost for detaining illegal migrants  Measured by: rate of reduction (Source: MS)	Decrease in illegal immigration  Improved effectiveness of return procedures	Agreements have been signed with Hong Kong, Macao, Albania, Sri Lanka and Russia. Others are currently being negotiated.

	procedures							
Policy sub-area 6: H	Policy sub-area 6: Horizontal issues							
Main instrument	Objectives	Implementation	Indica	ntors/evaluation que	estions	Specific issues		
(and type of instrument)	type of nent)	at national level	Immediate results	Outcomes	Impacts	/comments		
Proposed mutual information procedure on planned national asylum and immigration measures	Enhance mutual information of national immigration and asylum policies between MS policy-makers	Cooperation by MS	Successful implementation of procedure  Measured by:  Number of national measures submitted through the system  Number of responses generated to requests for information (Source: MS + Commission)  Meetings organised (Source: MS + Commission)	Increased knowledge of other Member State policies and measures	Anticipation of effects of changes to other national policies  Better understanding of other national contexts could lead to an enhancement of the possibilities for harmonisation	Procedure yet to be implemented.  Implementation could start in 2007.		
European Migration Network	Provide the Community and MS with objective,	Organisation of activities at national level by national contact	Successful implementation of network	Better and faster access to information on migration and	Increased knowledge and understanding of the migration phenomenon at	Proposal and impact assessment due by September		

	reliable and comparable information on migration and asylum.	points	Measured by:  Number of products produced (Source: MS + Commission)  Number of meetings and conferences held (Source: MS + Commission)  Number of networks set up at national level (Source: MS)	asylum  Increased knowledge of issues at national level  Increased information sharing between actors	Member State and EU level Increased capacity to "anticipate" migratory developments	2006 for a Council Decision on the future EMN.
Proposed Regulation on Community statistics on migration and international protection	Improve the statistical knowledge of migration-related phenomena by specifying the data to be collected, the timetables to be applied, the definitions and the quality standards.	measures at	Successful implementation of Regulation  Measured by:  Increased proportion of statistical data items supplied according to the harmonised definitions as opposed to national definitions (Source: MS)  Increased proportion of statistical data items directly based on	Increased availability of data  Improvement to quality and comparability of data between Member States  Measured by:  Improvements in the completeness, timeliness and degree of harmonization of	Improved analyses of data  Improved statistical knowledge	Regulation will probably be adopted in 2006. First reference year for the statistics will be 2008.

			appropriate data sources as opposed to statistical estimations (Source: Commission - Eurostat))	migration and asylum data supplied to the Commission - Eurostat (Source: Commission – Eurostat)		
Action Programme for administrative cooperation in the fields of external borders, visas, asylum and immigration (ARGO)	cooperation	Disbursement rate/amount spent per year	Successful implementation of programme measured by:  Number of projects implemented per activity area  Number of training actions implemented  Number of staff exchanges implemented  Number of actions promoting data exchange implemented  Number of studies, conferences and seminars conducted	Increased cooperation between national administrations and with third countries  Measured by:  Number of common operative centres and joint teams set up  Number of cooperation activities in third countries set up  (Source: Commission)	Uniform application of Community law  Improved transparency of actions taken by national authorities  Improved efficiency of national administrations	Mid-term evaluation to be completed in July 2006.

authorities	()	(Source: Commission)		
To improve the overall efficiency of national administrations in their tasks				

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#### POLICY AREA: ESTABLISHING A GENUINE EUROPEAN AREA OF JUSTICE IN CRIMINAL AND CIVIL MATTERS

#### Factors influencing evaluation mechanism:

The policy area includes both first pillar (civil justice) and third pillar (criminal justice) matters. The main instruments are legislation including the introduction of new legal instruments and activities to stimulate judicial cooperation. Evaluation should cover the implementation of mutual recognition instruments and the various flanking (confidence building) measures that make mutual recognition possible. The potential to identify the causal links between the interventions and the achievement of objectives is greater within civil matters than criminal matters. Information on the scale and nature of the relevant (cross border) civil and criminal matters is however poor. The instruments in both sub policy areas are potentially reinforcing. The classification of the instruments within the civil matters sub policy area relate to both process (cooperation and procedures) and to substantive problems addressed by the instruments (cross border disputes and breakdown of international marriages). There is also a miscellaneous sub category. The achievement of a European area of justice in criminal matters may be constrained by continued variations in definitions of crimes and penalties. Several of the instruments mentioned under civil matters are 'forthcoming'. They are included however because they illustrate aspects of the evaluation challenges in this policy area. The Judicial training instrument is relevant to both sub policy areas. There are close links between the instruments and objectives of the policy sub area 2 Criminal matters, and the objectives and activities in the policy area: law enforcement cooperation, prevention and fight against organised crime. Also, it should be noted that adjustments to the indicators put forward in criminal matters may take place in light of the implementation of the forthcoming Action Plan on statistics in the field of crime and criminal justice (see more expanded reference on page 49).

# Policy sub-area 1: Civil matters

#### **Objectives:**

ΕN

To increase mutual recognition and enforcement of judicial decisions

To establish clear rules on jurisdiction and applicable law

To reduce the costs of resolving cross border disputes

To increase the likelihood that cross border disputes are resolved

To reduce the likelihood of cross border disputes arising

To reduce the negative consequences of breakdowns in 'international' marriages and prevent child abduction

## **Policy sub-area level indicators:**

Number of mutually recognised judicial decisions

Average costs (of different types) of cross-border disputes

Number of cross-border cases not resolved

Spouses' (perceptions of) costs of international divorces

The number and amount of cross-border maintenance claims not paid

Source: MS

Main instrument	Objectives	Implementation	Indicators/evaluation questions			Specific issues		
		at national level	Immediate results	Outcomes	Impacts	/comments		
Horizontal cooperat	Horizontal cooperation activities							
Specific programme 'Civil justice' (Framework Programme 2007- 2013 Fundamental Rights and Justice)	To increase mutual confidence of judicial actors.  To increase instances of mutual recognition.  To reduce application of	Participation in and support for cooperation programme.	Number of meetings, workshops.  Numbers of legal, judicial and administrative authorities involved in cooperation.	Increased knowledge of Member States legal and judicial systems in civil matters.  Measured by: Levels of knowledge	Mutually recognised decisions acted upon/ enforced.  Increased legal certainty.  Improved access to justice.	Establishing causal links between the interventions and outcomes and impacts will be problematic		

	intermediate procedures.		Source: programme monitoring system	amongst relevant authorities (Source: MS surveys)	Decreased costs and time spent in accessing justice due to disparities in civil law and civil procedures.	
European judicial network in civil and commercial matters	To improve and facilitate cooperation in civil justice matters  To facilitate access to justice and information  To reduce costs of access to information on international and European law and national judicial systems by EU nationals (and therefore increase access).	Participation in and support for cooperation programme.	Meetings, publications website.  Numbers of legal actors involved in cooperation.  Source: Network management reports (Source: Commission)	Hits and usage of website (Source: Commission)	Improved access to justice and quality of advice on cross (internal) border issues.  Improvement of judicial cooperation between MS and courts	Establishing causal links between the interventions and outcomes and impacts will be problematic
Rules on procedure	S					
Regulation on jurisdiction and the recognition	To harmonise national rules of conflict of	Implementation	Harmonised Community rules	Simpler and quicker procedures to recognise and	Better and quicker access to justice	Clear intervention logic

and enforcement of judgements in civil and commercial matters (Brussels I 44/2001)	jurisdiction  To simplify procedures for recognition and enforcement of judgements from MS		(Source: MS reporting to Commission)	enforce the judgements  Measured by:  Length of time taken to recognise and enforce the judgements  (Source: MS)	Prevent conflict of jurisdiction	
Regulation on taking evidence in civil and commercial matters (1206/2001)	To improve, simplify and speed up procedures for taking evidence between the courts of different MS	Implementation	Establishment of facilitated cross-border procedures between courts in different MS for taking evidence  (Source: MS reporting to Commission)	Quicker and more efficient judicial procedures  Measured by:  Length of time taken to take evidence between courts  (Source: MS)	Better and quicker access to justice	Clear intervention logic.
Regulation on the service of documents in civil and commercial matters (Regulation 1348/2000)	To increase efficiency and speed in judicial procedures  To improve and expedite the transmission of	Implementation	Establishment of common rules on transmission of judicial and extrajudicial documents between	Quicker and more efficient judicial procedures  Measured by:  Length of time taken to transmit	Better and quicker access to justice  Quicker judicial procedures	Clear intervention logic.

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	documents between MS		MS(Source: MS reporting to Commission)	the documents and enforce judgements  (Source: MS)		
Directive on legal aid in cross-border disputes (Council Directive 2003/8/EC)	To guarantee adequate level of legal aid in cross-border disputes through establishing minimum common standards between MS	Implementation	Minimum common standards relating to legal aid in cross-border disputes  (Source: MS reporting to Commission)	Adequate levels of legal aid in cross-border disputes  (Source: MS)	Improved access to justice, especially of vulnerable groups	Clear intervention logic.
Resolution of cross	border disputes					
European payment order (forthcoming)	To reduce the costs and time taken to make payments.  To increase the number of crossborder orders for payment	Implementation	Numbers of cross- border orders for payment made	Reduction of intermediate procedures	Reduced costs and time of litigation in cross-border cases concerning uncontested pecuniary claims.  Improved access to justice.  Facilitated recovery of cross-border debts	Establishing causal links between the interventions and outcomes and impacts will be problematic. Proposal yet to be adopted.

European enforcement order for uncontested claims (Regulation 805/2004)	To enable quick and efficient enforcement of an uncontested claim between MS	Implementation	Number of applications of European enforcement order in EU MS (Source: MS)	Quicker and more efficient enforcement of uncontested claims in another MS  Measured by:  Length of time needed to enforce such a claim  (Source: MS)	Reduced costs and time in such cross-border cases Improved access to justice	Establishing causal links between the interventions and outcomes and impacts will be problematic
Instrument on Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)	To reduce the costs of dispute resolution  To facilitate recourse to mediation by improving legal certainty	Implementation	More possibilities and better awareness of possibilities for ADR	More attempts to use ADR	Reduced costs of dispute resolution  More disputes resolved without going to court	Establishing causal links between the interventions and outcomes and impacts will be problematic
Instrument on small claims	To facilitate cross- border access to justice for small claims  To reduce the costs and time taken to resolve	Implementation	Application of Small Claims Procedure in the 25 EU MS (Source: MS)	Increased number of small claims pursued. (Source: MS)	More small claims resolved.  Increased legal certainty.  Increased access to justice.	Proposal yet to be adopted.

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Marriage and divor	small claims.  To increase the number of legitimate small claims made.					
Instrument on maintenance obligations	To improve and simplify enforcement procedures of maintenance obligations.  To enhance cooperation.  To clarify what is applicable (nonconflicting) law	Implementation	Application of Regulation in maintenance obligations proceedings in 25 EU MS (Source: MS)	Reduction of intermediate procedures.  Reduced cases of forum shopping  Increased cooperation between legal professionals / competent authorities in the Member States  (Source: MS)	Increased legal certainty  Better informed decisions  Mutually recognised decisions acted upon/enforced.  Facilitated recovery of debts (maintenance for creditors)	Instrument is at the Council discussion stage.  Establishing causal links between the interventions and outcomes and impacts will be problematic. Evaluation requires good data from the Member States.
Regulation on jurisdiction and recognition and enforcement of judgements in matrimonial	To harmonise rules of jurisdiction  To enable automatic	Implementation	Establishment of harmonised rules on jurisdiction (Source: MS)	Quicker and more efficient recognition and enforcement of judgements	Better access to justice  Better protection of citizens in case of divorce	Evaluation requires good data from the Member States.

matters and parental responsibility (Brussels II, 2201/2003)	recognition and enforcement of judgements between MS			Measured by:  Length of time taken to recognise and enforce a judgement  (Source: MS)	Facilitated visiting rights for parents  Better protection of children's' rights	
Various						
Instrument on the conflict of laws in the area of contractual obligations (Rome I).	To reduce costs associated with differences regarding non-contractual obligations  To increase party autonomy and flexibility  To increase legal certainty for consumers and internal market	Implementation	Numbers of cross-border disputes settled  Application of conflict of law rules in the MS  (Source: MS)	Improved mutual trust between judicial authorities Faster procedures. (Source: MS)	Reduced uncertainty.  Reduced costs.  Facilitated mutual recognition of international contracts	Proposal in discussion stage.
Proposal for a regulation on the law applicable to non-contractual obligations (Rome	To harmonise rules on non-contractual obligations	Implementation	Provision of a set of community rules  Application of	Improved mutual trust between judicial authorities Faster procedures.	Reduced legal uncertainty.  Better access to justice	Establishing causal links between the interventions and outcomes and impacts

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II, COM(2003) final)	To increase legal certainty		rules in the MS (Source: MS)	(Source: MS)  Increased legal certainty for victims of damages and perpetrators of torts	Reduced costs of accessing justice	will be problematic
Regulation on insolvency proceedings (1346/2000)	To improve efficiency and effectiveness of cross-border insolvency proceedings  To prevent shopping for a more favourable legal position	Implementation	Provision of a set of community rules  Application of rules in the MS  (Source: MS)	More efficient and effective cross-border insolvency proceedings  Prevention of shopping for a more favourable legal position  Measured by:  Time taken for proceedings  Perceptions of shopping amongst legal professionals  (Source: MS, surveys)	Better access to justice  Reduced costs of accessing justice  Better resolution of cross border insolvencies  Better cooperation between courts and administrators of insolvency	Clear intervention logic
Directive on	To facilitate better	Implementation	Co-operation	Better access to	Better access to	Clear intervention logic

compensation to	access for victims	mechanism	compensation to	justice	
crime victims	to compensations	between MS set	victims of crimes		
(2004/80/EC)	where crime was	up	in cross-border	Better	
	committed in	1	situations	compensation for	
	another MS	(Source: MS)		victims of cross-	
		1	(Source: MS)	border crime in	
	To establish a			Europe	
	compensation				
	mechanism in				
	such cases				

Policy sub-area 2: Criminal matters (Justice)

#### **Objectives:**

To promote mutual recognition

To increase confidence and other conditions leading to mutual recognition

To reduce differences in the definition of crimes. In particular, to explore common definitions and procedures for human trafficking and cross border crimes

To reduce differences in detention and trial procedures

To improve taking of evidence

To reduce differences in penalties

To speed up cross border arrest and surrender procedures

To facilitate cross border management, freezing and confiscation of criminal assets

To protect victims of crime

# **Policy sub-area level indicators:**

Number of mutually recognised judicial decisions

Extent of mutual confidence: proportion of officials in national administrations who have high confidence in other MS systems (measured by surveys of national authorities)

Level of awareness of judicial actors of other MS systems

Number of definitions of crimes approximated

Number of reduced differences in detention and trial procedures and definition of penalties

Length of cross-border arrest and surrender procedures

Size of criminal assets frozen and confiscated in cross-border cases

Source: MS

Main instrument	Objectives	Implementation at national level	Indicators/evaluation questions			Specific issues	
(and type of instrument)		at national level	Immediate results	Outcomes	Impacts	/comments	
European arrest warrant and the surrender procedures between Member States (Council Framework Decision of 13 June 2002on the	To facilitate and expedite surrender procedures in respect of persons wanted for trial and sentenced persons between Member States	Transposition	Numbers of arrest warrants issued, executed and refused  Numbers of persons surrendered and of persons received from other Member	Faster and simpler surrender procedures  Measured by:  Average duration of surrender procedures (Source: MS)	Increased visibility of mutual recognition, better knowledge of each other's judicial systems and increased mutual confidence	Requires good data from MS. MS must actively participate in evaluation.	

European arrest warrant and the surrender procedures between Member States (2002/584/JHA))			States and numbers of persons consenting to surrender.  (Source: MS)		between judicial authorities.  Increased security and safety within the EU	
Instrument on the execution of orders freezing property or evidence (Council Framework Decision 2003/577/JHA of 22 July 2003)	To facilitate recognition and execution of freezing orders issued by a judicial authority of another Member State	Transposition	Number of freezing requests issued and executed (Source: MS)	Increased efficiency and effectiveness of freezing orders  Measured by:  Faster procedures to freeze assets  Increased use of procedures to freeze assets  Increased speed of procedures as a consequence of freezing order  Improved access to evidence obtained/  Improved recovery of assets	Increased efficiency of procedures; increased mutual confidence between judicial authorities.  Decreased levels of organised crime (Source: Europol reports)	Requires good data from MS.

				(Source: MS)		
Instrument on the application of the principle of mutual recognition to financial penalties (Council Framework Decision 2005/214/JHA of 24 February 2005)	To facilitate the enforcement of financial penalties imposed by judicial or administrative authorities in a Member State other than the State in which the penalties were imposed.	Transposition	Number of decisions and issued and executed (Source: MS)	Faster and more effective procedures to ensure enforcement of financial penalties  Measured by:  Average length of procedures  (Source: MS)	Dissuasive effect to potential criminals and decreased level of financial crime  Increased visibility of mutual recognition, better knowledge of each other's judicial systems and increased mutual confidence between judicial authorities.	Requires good data from MS.  Difficult to measure causal links between outcomes and impacts
Instrument on the exchange of information extracted from the criminal record (Council Decision 2005/876/JHA of 21 November 2005)	To improve exchanges of information on criminal records between Member States	Voluntary compliance	Number of requests sent, number of replies sent -for the purpose of criminal proceedings, and - for other purposes Respect of	Improved knowledge available to sentencing authorities about the convicted person's full European criminal record.  Improved circulation of information on criminal records for other purposes (e.g.	Dissuasive effect to potential criminals and hence decreased levels of crime  Increased visibility of mutual recognition, better knowledge of each other's	Requires good data from MS.  Difficult to measure causal links between outcomes and impacts

			deadlines (Source: MS)	employment)  Improved quality of information on criminal records from abroad in the Member State of nationality  (Source: MS)	judicial systems and increased mutual confidence between judicial authorities.  More appropriate and better informed sentencing decisions	
Instrument on the standing of victims in criminal proceedings (Council Framework Decision of 15 March 2001)	To assist victims before or after criminal proceedings	Transposition	Application of rules the instrument (Source: MS)	Better information for victims on legal advice and on their rights, protection for vulnerable victims and more appropriate methods of obtaining evidence  Improved situation for victims in relation to criminal proceedings  (Source: MS)	Raised awareness of victims' rights amongst practitioners  Measured by MS surveys  Better access to justice	Requires good data from MS.
Framework programme on police and judicial	Help legal practitioners, law enforcement	Commitments to AGIS projects	Number of activities promoting training and expert	Development of instruments, strategies and	Improved operational procedures and	Transnational cooperation activities normally require

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cooperation in criminal matters (AGIS)	officials and representatives of victim assistance services from the EU Member States and Candidate Countries set up Europe-wide networks, exchange information and best practices.  Encourage Member States to step-up cooperation with the applicant countries and other third countries	Participation	Number of dissemination activities  Number of conferences and seminars  Number of studies, research and evaluations  (Source: Commission)	activities for cooperation  Development of methods, techniques and instruments for operational and training use  Exchange and dissemination of information, experience and best practices  (Source: Commission)	approaches  Better operational cooperation  Cross-border use of good practices  Mutual understanding of respective police, legal and administrative systems  Common perception of criminality	qualitative approaches to evaluation taking account of varying contexts.			
Flanking measure	Flanking measures in place								
The European Judicial Network (Joint Action of 29 June 1998 adopted by the Council)	To improve judicial cooperation between Member States through direct contacts between judicial	Designation of national contact points	Regular meetings, creation and updating of specific tools (website, "fiches belges", atlas and SOLON legal	Increased efficiency of procedures and better communication between judicial authorities.  Measured by:	Improved functioning of mutual recognition instruments, better knowledge of each other's				

	authorities		glossary)  Number of cases in which the EJN is involved.  (Source: EJN and Member States)	Average duration of procedures, analysis of outcomes of proceedings, perceptions of ECJ as a communication tool  (Source: EJN and Member States)	judicial systems and increased mutual confidence between judicial authorities.	
Eurojust (Council Decision of 28 February 2002)	Better co - ordination of investigation and prosecution of serious cross-border crime	Appointment of national experts to Eurojust	Immediate access to information about legal systems from a practitioner of the nationality of the Member States in question.  Measured by: number of cases where Eurojust is used  Establishment of the coordination role.  Establishment of Eurojust as a potential arbiter of conflicts of	Increased efficiency of procedures and better communication between prosecutors and judicial authorities.  Measured by:  Average duration of procedures, analysis of outcomes of proceedings  (Source: Eurojust and MS)	Increased cross border prosecution rates and improved efficiency (evidence gathering, mutual information exchange on procedural matters)  Improved functioning of mutual recognition instruments, better knowledge of each other's judicial systems and increased	

			jurisdiction.  Establishment of Eurojust as peporting authority for problems with European Arrest Warrants.  (Source: Eurojust and MS)		mutual confidence between judicial authorities.	
Joint investigation teams  (Council Framework Decision of 13 June 2002)	To facilitate, expedite and improve investigations in cross border cases	Transposition	Setting up of joint investigation teams  Number of cases investigated by such teams  (Source: MS)	Efficient gathering of evidence in cross border cases  Measured by:  Average duration of cross-border case reaching the court  (Source: MS)	Increased range of judicial cooperation tools.  Improved functioning of mutual recognition instruments, better knowledge of each other's judicial systems and increased mutual confidence between judicial authorities.	

Judicial training	To improve	Participation in	Organisation of	In evaluating the	Increased
J	knowledge of	training activities	training activities	success of this policy,	understanding of
	relevant EU			regard must be had to	mutual
	instruments		Measured by:	the effective use of	recognition
	among legal		Training	available EU funding.	D C
	practitioners		programmes	I	Promotion of a
	To enhance		offered, number	Increased number of judicial training	European judicial culture.
	mutual		of participants benefiting from	activities, increased	Cultule.
	understanding of		training on EU	coordination between	
	legal systems		matters )	national judicial	
	among judges and		muccis )	training programmes,	
	prosecutors		(Source:	development of the	
			Commission.	European Judicial	
	To co-ordinate		Participant	Training Network.	
	national judicial		feedback)		
	training			Measured by:	
	programmes			Quality of training	
	To promote better			activities, number of	
	language skills			participants in	
	among European			exchanges Improved	
	legal practitioners			knowledge of	
				European and	
				international	
				instruments amongst	
				judges and	
				prosecutors	
				(Source: MS	

		Interviews with law enforcement and judicial actors)	
		,	

# 5.1. POLICY AREA: LAW ENFORCEMENT COOPERATION AND PREVENTION OF AND FIGHT AGAINST GENERAL ORGANISED CRIME

Factors influencing evaluation mechanism: Policy based on the TEU Title VI (third pillar). Activities include legislation, including the approximation of crimes and penalties and cooperation measure. Establishing causal links between the EU interventions and the ultimate objective of reducing crime is always likely to be problematic. The current factsheet intends to facilitate the assessment of the implementation of EU instruments in this area. Full fledged evaluation will require substantial improvements in the quality and availability of statistical information in the field of crime and criminal justice. The forthcoming Action Plan in this field (to be adopted by the Commission in July 2006) will address these issues and put forward concrete proposals, including carrying out an inventory and setting-up an expert group. In this context, this factsheet and the indicators included therein will necessarily be adjusted and improved in the light of the implementation of the Action Plan, and could be used as a starting point for discussions in this field.

Policy sub-area 1: Crimes and Sanctions (i.e. legislation to fight organised (cross border) crime and terrorism)

#### **Objectives:**

To combat:

- Terrorism
- Smuggling and trafficking of human beings,
- Sexual exploitation, racism and xenophobia,
- Financial and economic crime,
- Environmental crime,
- Illicit trafficking in goods,
- Organised crime and cyber crime.

To reduce the financial resources available to those involved in organised crime

To criminalise active and passive corruption

#### **Policy sub-area level indicators:**

Numbers and trends of successful prosecutions for (Source: UN crime and criminal justice trends surveys, European sourcebook of criminal justice statistics, Commission crime and criminal justice statistics):

- Smuggling and trafficking of human beings,
- Sexual exploitation,
- Financial and economic crime,
- Environmental crime,
- Illicit trafficking in goods (including firearms),

Numbers of successful prosecutions for organised crime (Source: UN crime justice and crime trends surveys, European sourcebook of criminal justice statistics, Commission crime and criminal justice statistics)

Numbers of prosecutions for active and passive corruption (Source: UN crime justice and crime trends surveys, European sourcebook of criminal justice statistics, Commission crime and criminal justice statistics)

Perception of levels of active and passive corruption (Source: Transparency International survey)

Numbers of crimes subject to EU interventions and instruments (Source: UN crime justice and crime trends surveys, European sourcebook of criminal justice statistics, Commission crime and criminal justice statistics)

Main	Objectives	Implementation	Indicat	Specific issues		
instrument		at national level	Immediate results	Outcomes	Impacts	/comments
Terrorism						
Council Framework Decision (FD) of 13 June 2002 on combating terrorism (2002/475/JHA)	To approximate the definition of terrorist offences, and penalties and sanctions in all MS  To establish jurisdictional rules to ensure that offences are prosecuted  To apply specific measures for victims of terrorist offences	_	Application of FD provisions.  Measured by:  The number of definitions of offences, penalties and sanctions approximated  Number of measures applied for victims of terrorist offences  (Sources: MS)	Number of terrorists prosecuted as a result of FD	Reduced instances of terrorist activities  Improved help to victims of terrorism	Difficult to assess the causal links between outputs, outcomes and impacts
Pilot project on victims of terrorism	To help the victims of terrorist acts and/or their relatives to	Implementation of projects	Number of beneficiaries assisted through psychological	Improved cooperation and exchange Increased research	Improved social and psychological support to victims of	

	recover by means of social or psychological support provided by organisations and/or their networks.		Number of special training programmes organised  Number of social integration programmes organised for victims	on the situation of victims of terrorist acts  Creation of reception centres for victims	Increase awareness of the European public	
	To raise the awareness of the European public against the terrorist threat, so that the traditional fight against terrorism through police and judiciary measures can be complemented by public opinion condemning terrorism in all its forms.		Number of special medical programmes created  Number of events and information campaigns organised			
Pilot project on prevention, preparedness and	To combat terrorism	Implementation of projects	Number of studies carried out	Development of capabilities for the management of	Improved expertise on	

response to terrorist attacks	To improve the security of citizens		Number of expert networks set up	Exchange of experience and best practice	Increased exchange of expertise  Increased cooperation with international partners		
Smuggling and tra	afficking of human	beings					
Council Framework Decision (FD) 2002/629/JHA of 19 July 2002 on combating trafficking in human beings	Reduce human trafficking	Implementation of FD	Application of FD provisions.  Measured by:  Number of detentions resulting from FD  (Source: MS)	Successful prosecutions resulting from FD (Source: MS)	Reduced trafficking in human beings  Reduction in damage to victims of trafficking	Identifying cases specifically linked to FD may be problematic	
Sexual exploitation							
Council frameword decision (FD) 2004/68/JHA of 22 December 2003 on	Reduce sexual exploitation of children.  Reduce child	Implementation of FD	Application of FD provisions.  Measured by:  Number of	Successful prosecutions resulting from FD (Source: MS)	Reduced sexual exploitation of children. Indicated for example by reductions in	Identifying cases specifically linked to FD may be	

combating the sexual exploitation of children and child pornography	pornography.		detentions resulting from FD (Source: MS)		numbers of complaints.  Reduced child pornography. Indicated for example by reduction in number of illicit websites and other outlets.	problematic
Financial and econ	nomic crime					
Council Framework Decision (FD ) of 22 July 2003 criminalising corruption in private sector	Criminalise active and passive corruption	Implementation of FD	Application of FD provisions.  Measured by:  New crimes detected as a result of FD  Number of detentions resulting from FD  Source: MS)	Successful prosecutions resulting from FD (Source: MS)	Reduced corruption in private sector.  (Source: Transparency International surveys)	
FD on money laundering and counterfeiting of	Criminalise fraud involving any form of non-	Implementation of FD	Application of FD provisions.	Successful prosecutions resulting from FD	Reduced money laundering and counterfeiting of	

non-cash payments	cash means of payment in all MS		Measured by:  New crimes detected as a result of FD  Number of detentions resulting from FD  Source: MS)	(Source: MS)	non-cash payments  (Source: national criminal justice statistics)				
Illicit trafficking i	n goods				_				
Proposal for a regulation on import/export licensing system for firearms	Reduce firearms trafficking. Harmonize the regime for import and export of firearms.	Establishment of the system	Application of the regulation  Measured by: Numbers of arms licensed  (Source: MS)	Increased control over imports and exports of firearms  Measured by:  perceptions of law enforcement agencies  (Source: MS)	Reduced firearms trafficking  Reduced use of illicit firearms	Clear intervention logic (forthcoming)  The instrument is relevant to borders policy area.			
Organised crime	Organised crime								
Council Framework Decision 2001/500/JHA	Approximate definitions, incriminations and sanctions	Implementation of FD	Application of rules and provisions contained in FD	Assets frozen and confiscated.  Measured by:	Reduced money laundering Reduced crime	Regular monitoring reports from the Commission			

of 26 June 2001 relating to money laundering, identification, tracing, freezing or seizing and confiscation of the instrumentalities and proceeds from crime	Improve mutual legal assistance in the investigation and prosecution of this type of crime		Measured by:  Instances of suspicious transactions reported to entities subject to reporting obligations  Penalties resulting from FD  Prosecutions resulting from FD  Reduction of the differences in maximum penalties among MS  (Source: MS, Commission)	Effective judgments pronounced  Amounts frozen and confiscated (Source: MS)	Measured by:  Perceptions of law enforcement agencies.	Identifying cases specifically linked to the FD may be problematic  (This instrument might fit better under financial crime although it is about enacting penalties and might better fit under Justice criminal matters. Evaluation need to be done in combination with the third money laundering directive).
Proposal for a FD on fight against organised crime (2005)	Harmonise the definition of offences and penalties Facilitate	Implementation of FD	Application of rules and provisions contained in FD.  Measured by:  Better harmonised	Increased judicial co-operation  Measured by:  Trials and successful	Reduced organised crime  Measured by: Perceptions of law enforcement	Difficult to measure impacts  Identifying cases specifically

	cooperation between judicial authorities and coordinate their activities.		definition of offences and penalties.  Instances of judicial cooperation  (Source: MS, Commission)	prosecutions resulting from FD (Source: MS)	agencies.	linked to the FD may be problematic  (This too might better fit under Justice criminal matters policy area)
Directive on the residence permit issued to third-country nationals who are victims of trafficking in human beings or who have been the subject of an action to facilitate illegal immigration, who cooperate with the competent authorities. (April 2004)	Reduce organised crime participation in illegal migration and human trafficking  Facilitate victims giving evidence against suspected criminals	Implementation of Directive	Application of rules and provisions contained in Directive  Measured by  Instances of residence permits issued  (Source: MS)	More victims testifying against suspected criminals  Successful prosecution of suspected criminals  (Source: MS)	Reduced organised crime participation in illegal migration and human trafficking  Measured by:  Perceptions of migration and law enforcement agencies.	This instrument is relevant to borders policy area.  (It does not fit easily in this sub category.)

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Policy sub area 2: Cooperation and exchange of information to enforce the law.

(The architecture of the instruments in this sub policy area is such that the instruments should be reinforcing. Capturing these synergies in evaluation work would be of value)

# **Objectives:**

To increase cooperation between police and customs authorities of MS

To increase cooperation of MS police and customs authorities with Europol

To develop and improve use of 'intelligence led law enforcement' and Joint Investigation Teams

To encourage exchange of experiences on best practice on investigative techniques

To improve the quality of Member States law enforcement data with the assistance of Europol

# Policy sub-area level indicators:

Number of formal joint investigations

Number of informal joint investigations

Number of successful prosecutions resulting from joint investigations (formal and informal)

Number of successful prosecutions resulting from the adoption of best practice investigative techniques

Extent of mutual confidence: proportion of officials in national administrations/law enforcement authorities who have confidence in other MS systems (measured by surveys of national authorities)

Periods of time (person days) on (trans-national) exchanges of staff

Source: MS

Main	Objectives	Implementation at national level	Indica	tors/evaluation questi	ons	Specific issues /comments
instrument			Immediate results	Outcomes	Impacts	
Schengen Information System (SIS) II	Sharing of information among MS in order to refuse entry on the basis of uniform practices	Consistent input and further use of information among MS	Quality and a Availability of SIS II information for competent national authorities  Measured by:  Number of records per category  (Source: MS and Commission)	Success in using SIS information.  Measured by:  Number of correctly identified persons who should be refused entry and wanted goods discovered  (Source: MS)	Reduced permeability of the external border.  Increased confidence to promote 'free movement' policies.	Clear intervention logic.  Evaluation methods — analysis of trends and process changes.  Commission responsible for evaluation coordination and analysis, MS for information analysis. Most of the analysis will depend upon information from MS.  Evaluation will be very difficult.
Common position on the	To prevent and combat serious	Exchange of data with Interpol	Number of data records forwarded to	Enhanced cooperation	Decreased illicit	

exchange of data with Interpol on passports	and organised crime including terrorism through improved cooperation between MS' law enforcement authorities and between them and such authorities in third Countries by exchanging passport data with Interpol	through database on stolen travel documents	Interpol	between law enforcement authorities	activities	
Task Force of Police Chiefs	Create conditions for cooperation	Participation of police chiefs (or alternates)	Cooperation activities.  Measured by:  Meetings held  Informal contacts  Formal cooperation agreements  (Source: MS)	Mutual cooperation  Measured by:  Instances of cooperation  Perceptions of participants  (Source: MS)	Sustained cooperation  Measured by:  Instances of cooperation arising indirectly and at lower levels.  Decrease in criminal	By its nature a difficult instrument to evaluate in its own right.

					Activities  Measured by:  Number of arrests, prosecutions, and convictions	
Europol	Promote cooperation between MS law enforcement agencies	Provision of information, application and use of information received from Europol or via bilateral cooperation initiated by Europol	Cooperation activities  Measured by  Strategic analyses undertaken,  Instances of exchange of intelligence.  Use of formal joint investigation teams  Use of informal joint investigation teams  Number of investigations informed.  (Source: Europol	Better law enforcement  Measured by:  Trials resulting from exchanges of intelligence and cooperation.  Successful prosecutions resulting from exchanges of intelligence and cooperation.  (Source: MS and Europol)	Reduced 'cross border' crime  Reduced crime  (Sources: UN crime justice and crime trends surveys, European sourcebook of criminal justice statistics, UK Home Office international criminal justice statistics)	Evaluation needs to acknowledge the real constraints on multilateral police cooperation (issues of confidentiality and credit for solving cases) and the potentially weak links between police cooperation and reductions in crime.  Evaluation work has included peer reviews

			and perceptions of participating MS and law enforcement agencies).			
CEPOL	Improve likelihood of (transnational) cooperation. Improve competences of trainees.	Commitment to EU level training	EU level Training activities  Measured by:  Number of police officers trained  Number of courses offered  (Source: CEPOL, including potential follow up survey of trainees.)	Improved cooperation  Measured by:  Resulting instances of cooperation between individual officers.  Resulting instances of cooperation between agencies  Resulting improved investigations.  Resulting improved investigations.  Resulting detentions and prosecutions  (Sources: MS Law enforcement agency records, judicial records)	Increased competence in cross border level practice  Reduced 'cross border' crime  Reduced crime  (Sources: UN crime justice and crime trends surveys, European sourcebook of criminal justice statistics, UK Home Office international criminal justice statistics)	Identifying causal links with impacts will be especially difficult.  An report on the operation and future of CEPOL was published in January 2006.

Framework programme on police and judicial cooperation in criminal matters (AGIS)	Help legal practitioners, law enforcement officials and representatives of victim assistance services from the EU Member States and Candidate Countries set up Europewide networks, exchange information and best practices.  Encourage Member States to step-up cooperation with the applicant countries and other third countries	Commitments to AGIS projects  Participation	Number of activities promoting training and expert mobility  Number of dissemination activities  Number of conferences and seminars  Number of studies, research and evaluations  (Source: Commission)	Development of instruments, strategies and activities for cooperation  Development of methods, techniques and instruments for operational and training use  Exchange and dissemination of information, experience and best practices  Source: Commission)	Improved operational procedures and approaches  Better operational cooperation  Cross-border use of good practices  Mutual understanding of respective police, legal and administrative systems  Common perception of criminality	Transnational cooperation activities normally require qualitative approaches to evaluation taking account of varying contexts.
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# Policy sub area 3: Crime Prevention

# **Objectives:**

To reduce instances of (cross border organised) crime

To establish European instruments for collecting, analysing and comparing information on crime and victimisation.

To provide better information on trends in crime in Member States

# **Policy sub-area level indicators:**

Numbers of successful prosecutions of cross border organised crime

The frequency with which EU level statistics are collected (benchmark: annually)

The level of reliability of data (for example, number of definition changes), also indicated by the levels of confidence in data by key actors (source: regular surveys)

Consistency of data between Members States (for example, numbers of definition variations), indicated the levels of confidence in data by key actors (*source: regular surveys*)

Source: Commission, MS

Main	Objectives	Implementation at national level	Indica	Specific issues /comments		
instrument		at national level	Immediate results	Outcomes	Impacts	Comments
Forum on organised crime prevention	Better exchange of information	Active participation from MS	Coordination and cooperation of activities	Better and increased information base	Reduced crime	Difficult to measure causal links
	Creation of a			Better legal and		

	Platform of expertise		Measured by:  Meetings and seminars held  Studies undertaken etc.  (Source: Commission)	other instruments  Measured by:  Application and dissemination of information and best practices exchanged  (Source: MS)		
European crime prevention network	Provide expertise and knowledge in developing effective crime prevention measures	Active participation from MS	Measured by Meetings, Exchange of information Identification and propagation of good practice. Copies/hits on good practice and recommendations. (Source: Commission)	Application of Network Knowledge  Measured by: Uptake of recommendations Improved policy making processes (Source: MS via Consultations)	Improved policies and practices with respect to crime prevention  Reduced crime	Difficult to measure causal links
EU action plan	Provide better	Active	Availability of	Application of	Better informed	Difficult to

on EU statistics on crime and criminal justice	information base on EU crime trends, levels and on victimisation as well as on criminal justice.	participation from MS	information on crime and criminal justice covering EU  Measured by:  Availability, coverage and comparability o data.  (Source: Commission)	improved information  Measured by:  Dissemination of information to EU and MS policy makers  Citation of statistics in policy documents  (Source: Commission and MS)	policy making at EU level.  Better informed policy making at MS level.	measure causal links  Statistical information is not available  Instrument underpins evaluation of other instruments as it should improve statistics available at the EU level
Action plan on public-private partnerships	Establish public-private partnerships at EU level to tackle multinational organised crime and terrorism	Active participation from MS	Implementation of Action plan  Creation of a EU level Platform for public-private partnership against organised crime and terrorism  Measured by  Reports from old and new partnership structures to the	Increased cooperation between public and private sector  Measured by:  Number of cooperation activities  Source: Commission: Follow up studies of specific partnerships)	Reduced level of damage from organised crime and terrorism	Process evaluation could be appropriate

Effective participation in the work of the Platform and new partnerships  Composition of partnerships established (Source: Commission)	
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Policy sub area 4: Management of crises<sup>13</sup> with cross border effects

**Objectives:** Reduce detrimental cross border impacts of crises

With particular regard to preparedness and response to terrorist attacks.

# **Policy sub-area level indicators:**

Number of cross border crises reported in press/media

Number of cross border crises involving EU crisis management

Main instrument	Objectives	Implementation at national level	Indicators/evaluation questions			Specific issues
			Immediate results	Outcomes	Impacts	/comments
Setting up of integrated and co-ordinated EU crisismanagement arrangements in the Commission and the Council	Increase the level of preparedness to tackle cross-border crises within the EU	Active participation from MS in the structures to be established	_	Increased level of preparedness for cross border crises  Measured by:  Actual responses to crises  Results of 'Exercises' undertaken.  (Source: MS Potential stakeholder surveys)	Reduced impacts of such crises	There are likely to be particular difficulties in establishing the counter factual with respect to this instrument. Impacts may only be assessed sometime following emergencies. Some scope for peer review

### ANNEX 2

# Current practice for monitoring and evaluating EU policies on freedom, security and justice

#### 1. MONITORING

### 1.1. The Tampere scoreboard

The Tampere European Council in 1999 invited the Commission to compile a scoreboard to keep implementation of policies on freedom, security and justice under continuous review. The scoreboard would specifically keep track of progress made with implementation of the measures and compliance with the deadlines set in the Amsterdam Treaty, the Vienna Action Plan and the Tampere programme. In response, the Commission produced its first scoreboard in March 2000, followed by regular updates every six months taking into account the objectives set by the European Councils in Laeken (2001), Seville (2002) and Thessaloniki (June 2003). The last Tampere scoreboard was presented in June 2004, marking the end of the first five-year period (1999-2004).

The scoreboards indicated the objectives and deadlines set at Tampere and in each case the responsibilities assigned to launch, advance and complete the process. To provide a clear view of the progress made in each area, the scoreboard showed the outstanding proposals and initiatives presented, progress in Council and European Parliament proceedings and the work planned. A specific section of the scoreboard focused on transposition of the instruments adopted.

### 1.2. Reviewing implementation of EU legislation

### 1.2.1. *Instruments adopted under the EC Treaty*

Implementation by the Member States of Community legislation concerning free movement of persons, visas, asylum, immigration, judicial cooperation in civil matters and citizens' rights adopted under the European Community Treaty is monitored by the Commission. If a Member State fails to comply with its legislative obligations, the Commission can then initiate infringement proceedings under Article 226 of the EC Treaty and may bring the matter before the Court of Justice.

Apart from normal application of the monitoring mechanism under Articles 226 of the EC Treaty, monitoring implementation of the instruments adopted under Title IV of the EC Treaty is not systematic, although it is usual practice. For example, none of the four directives adopted on illegal migration provides for a monitoring report by the Commission.

Some reports, such as the evaluation of the derogation for issuing visas to members of the Olympic family<sup>14</sup>, go beyond mere analysis of implementation and contain information on



<sup>14</sup> Report on the functioning of the derogation system introduced by Regulation 1295/2003 regarding measures envisaged to facilitate the procedures for applying for and issuing visas for members of the Olympic family taking part in the 2004 Olympic or Paralympic Games in Athens (SEC(2005) 1051). This report was written by the Commission on the basis of information provided by the Greek authorities.

results. There are other examples concerning instruments adopted under Title II of the Treaty, such as reports<sup>15</sup> relating to free movement of Union citizens or reports<sup>16</sup> on their electoral rights in municipal and European Parliament elections.

### Instruments adopted under Title VI of the Treaty on European Union 1.2.2.

In the case of instruments adopted under Title VI of the EU Treaty concerning police and judicial cooperation in criminal matters, there is no equivalent compliance mechanism allowing the Commission to exercise its institutional powers as guardian of the Treaties.

For all Framework Decisions adopted by the Council, it is compulsory for Member States to transmit a detailed set of national implementing measures to the Commission and to the Council. Based on this information, the Commission then issues a report (e.g. 2002 Framework Decision on combating terrorism<sup>17</sup>). allowing the Council to debate the need for further measures in the field concerned. The Council generally expresses its position in a final report.

For some Framework Decisions, the Commission repeats or updates its monitoring exercise (e.g. "Victims" Framework Decision<sup>18</sup>).

Similarly, the Commission systematically monitors common positions and issues a monitoring report on national implementing measures. The Commission has also taken the initiative to issue specific reports on certain Council Decisions imposing no monitoring obligation such as those relating to Eurojust<sup>19</sup>

This monitoring exercise deals only with the **legal transposition** aspect and rarely includes details on the practical implementation of instruments. Such assessments of legal transposition answer the following questions: are the implementing measures effective, correct and in line with the Framework Decision? Are they clear and do they provide legal certainty? Do they fully apply the instrument and comply with the time limit for transposition?

In some cases this exercise has been backed up by an initial assessment of practical implementation in the Member States and of the tangible results of the national legislation. For example, in the case of the Framework Decision on the European Arrest Warrant<sup>20</sup>. some

<sup>15</sup> Reports from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament on the implementation of Directives 90/364, 90/365 and 93/96 (Right of residence), COM(1999) 127 final and COM(2003) 101

<sup>16</sup> Reports on the application of Directive 93/109/EC: Right of EU citizens residing in a Member State of which they are not nationals to vote in European Parliament elections, COM(97) 731 final and COM(2000) 843, or Report from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council on the application of Directive 94/80/EC on the right to vote and to stand as a candidate in municipal elections, COM(2002) 260 final.

<sup>17</sup> Report from the Commission based on Article 11 of the Council Framework Decision of 13 June 2002 on combating terrorism, COM(2004) 409 final, 8.6.2004.

<sup>18</sup> Council Framework Decision of 15 March 2001 on the standing of victims in criminal proceedings.

Report from the Commission on the legal transposition of the Council Decision of 28 February 2002 setting up Eurojust with a view to reinforcing the fight against serious crime, COM(2004) 457 final, 6.7.2004.

<sup>20</sup> Report from the Commission based on Article 34 of the Council Framework Decision of 13 June 2002 on the European Arrest Warrant and the surrender procedures between Member States (COM(2005) 63 final), p.2, paragraph 2: "The evaluation criteria adopted by the Commission for this report are, firstly,

of the practical results of the implementing measures were included in the monitoring report, such as the question of effectiveness and rapidity of surrender. The Commission's report also included some preliminary figures, such as the number of warrants issued or the average time taken to execute a warrant, which mainly illustrated the difficulty of obtaining adequate statistics in this field.

## 1.3. Information-gathering mechanisms on policy implementation

### 1.3.1. Existing mechanisms

Following the call by the 2001 Laeken European Council to set up an enhanced exchange of information in the field of immigration and asylum, the Commission launched an information and consultation procedure with a "Committee on Immigration and Asylum" (CIA) at its heart. The CIA is made up of experts from the Member States but also frequently provides a forum for representatives of civil society, such as European social partners and the UNHCR, to present their views on pertinent immigration and asylum issues.

In the field of integration, the "National Contact Points on Integration" (NCP) play an important role in monitoring progress across policy fields and in ensuring that integration efforts at national and EU level support each other. They convey key results to the CIA.

A European Migration Network (EMN) was set up in 2002 as a preparatory measure in response to the need to improve exchanges of information on all aspects of migration and asylum. Its primary objective is to provide the Community and the Member States with objective, reliable and comparable information in these fields by systematically collecting and storing existing data and information from Member States and carrying out national and European level analysis. At present, the EMN consists of national contact points designated by the Member States.

### 1.3.2. Mechanisms in preparation

In the field of asylum, a Communication<sup>21</sup> on strengthened practical cooperation proposed bringing into operation a **system for sharing expertise**, resources and knowledge between key stakeholders, as a tool for strengthening common approaches to implementation of the first-stage legislative instruments of the European asylum system, building - amongst others - on existing mechanisms, such as the EURASIL group.

In September 2005 the Commission tabled a proposal for a **Regulation on Community statistics on migration and international protection**. The Regulation will improve statistical knowledge of migration-related phenomena by specifying the data to be collected, the timetables to be applied, the definitions and the quality standards.

In October 2005 the Commission tabled a proposal for a Council Decision on the establishment of a **mutual information procedure on national measures** taken in the areas of asylum and immigration which could affect other Member States. The proposal is based on

COM(2006) 67 final.

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the general criteria normally used nowadays to evaluate the implementation of framework decisions (practical effectiveness, clarity and legal certainty, full application and compliance with the time limit for transposal), and, secondly, criteria specific to the arrest warrant, principally the fact that it is a judicial instrument, its effectiveness and its rapidity."

the recognition that the absence of border checks in the Schengen area and the gradual development of common EU immigration and asylum policies require timely exchanges of information and discussion of national measures taken on asylum and immigration.

### 1.4. Monitoring implementation of The Hague Programme

The Hague Multi-Annual Programme (2005-2009) and the Action Plan implementing it invited the Commission to present an annual report on implementation of these two instruments to the Council (the "Scoreboard plus").

The "Scoreboard plus" will aim predominantly at assessing proper and adequate transposition of the legislative acts adopted and effective implementation of the measures agreed. In concrete terms, "Scoreboard plus" will assess the outcome of both (a) the significant political progress achieved at the point of adoption at EU level and (b) implementation at national level of measures related to freedom, security and justice.

This structure will bring visibility to monitoring and provide a comprehensive overview of implementation of the Action Plan, meeting the requirements of the European Council in The Hague Programme. It will increase transparency and visibility and improve and facilitate implementation. The first "Scoreboard plus" is presented in parallel to this Communication, one year after adoption of the Action Plan implementing The Hague Programme.

#### 2. **EVALUATION**

This section briefly describes the state of play with evaluation in the field of freedom, security and justice, depending on the subject-matter: (1) programmes, (2) legislation or (3) policies<sup>22</sup>. Evaluations on freedom, security and justice mainly focus on individual policy instruments, be they legislative or financial. As in other areas, evaluation of policies (defined as a coherent set of instruments serving the same coherent objective) is still developing. As a consequence, evaluation activities are currently very diverse (internal or external evaluations, annual progress reports, peer reviews, etc.) and very different in scope. This results in a lack of comparable evaluation results across policies and of a true overview of the results achieved in establishing an Area of Freedom, Security and Justice.

The evaluation mechanism put forward in this Communication aims at tackling this issue. It provides a **platform** for exhaustive presentation and comparability of existing evaluation results, and identification of any information gaps. Whilst taking into account the fact that evaluation is more advanced for some activities than others, it will allow the establishment of a common set of minimum evaluation requirements across the different policies.

#### 2.1. **Evaluation of Community programmes**

Evaluation of **programmes** is **well developed** within the Commission, including in the area of freedom, security and justice, where major programmes such as the European Refugee



<sup>22</sup> Evaluations of agencies and external bodies have not been included, for example the evaluation of the draft Council Decision transforming the European Police College (CEPOL) into an EU body, the evaluation of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction and the evaluation of the functioning of the European Judicial Network (EJN) in civil and commercial matters.

Fund, AGIS and DAPHNE are regularly evaluated<sup>23</sup>. Available evaluation results demonstrate that whilst the immediate results of funding programmes are easily identified and measured, their longer-term effects are sometimes more difficult to grasp. In this context, the Commission proposals for the 2007-2013 programmes on freedom, security and justice establish a better link between the programmes' specific objectives and the overall political objectives. This will have an impact on the evaluation framework for these programmes, in particular through assessment of their consistency with other instruments (legislative or other) in the same field.

#### 2.2. **Evaluation of legislation**

Contrary to the evaluation of programmes, evaluation of legislation is a more recent development in the case of freedom, security and justice. Recent examples include the evaluation of the European Arrest Warrant<sup>24</sup> (2005), the economic evaluation of the Data Protection Directive<sup>25</sup> (2005) and the on-going evaluations of the Directive on minimum standards for the reception of asylum-seekers<sup>26</sup> and of the Brussels I Regulation<sup>27</sup>. Also, the introduction of impact assessments of EU legislation has led to systematic ex-ante appraisal, which should greatly facilitate further interim and/or ex-post evaluation. In this context, systematic scrutiny of legislative proposals and other draft instruments to ensure that they are compatible with the Charter of Fundamental Rights should serve the same purpose<sup>28</sup>.

#### 2.3. **Evaluation of policies**

### 2.3.1. Mechanism for Schengen evaluation

The Schengen evaluation system, first established in the intergovernmental Schengen framework and then integrated into the European Union framework<sup>29</sup>, assesses correct implementation of the Schengen acquis by participating Member States through a peer review mechanism, including visits to Member States. It has issued restricted reports, given details of cases of non-compliance with existing rules and practices and made further recommendations. This mechanism applies to both Community and third pillar measures.

When internal border controls with and between new EU Member States are lifted, the Commission will submit a "proposal to supplement the existing Schengen evaluation mechanism with a supervisory mechanism", as requested by The Hague Programme.



<sup>23</sup> of results these evaluations are available online http://europa.eu.int/comm/dgs/justice home/evaluation/dg coordination evaluation annexe en.htm.

<sup>24</sup> Council Framework Decision 2002/584/JHA of 13 June 2002 on the European Arrest Warrant and the surrender procedures between Member States.

Directive 95/46/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 October 1995 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data.

<sup>26</sup> Council Directive 2003/9/EC of 27 January 2003 laying down minimum standards for the reception of asylum-seekers.

<sup>27</sup> Council Regulation (EC) No 44/2001 of 22 December 2000 on jurisdiction and the recognition and enforcement of judgments in civil and commercial matters

<sup>28</sup> SEC(2001) 380/3, COM(2005) 172.

<sup>29</sup> Decision 26 DEF 1998 of the Schengen Executive Committee.

### 2.3.2. Mechanism for the fight against organised crime

Joint Action 97/827/JHA, adopted by the Council on 5 December 1997, established a mechanism for evaluating the application and implementation at national level of international undertakings in the **fight against organised crime**<sup>30</sup>. Two rounds of evaluation have already been completed and two others are ongoing. The first round focused on mutual legal assistance in criminal matters, on which a report was subsequently released on 1 August 2001<sup>31</sup>. The second assessed instruments dealing with law enforcement and drug trafficking. Finally, the third and fourth rounds, not yet completed, are evaluating exchanges of information and intelligence between the Member States and Europol and the European Arrest Warrant respectively. The 1997 mechanism is operated by teams of experts designated by Member States, assisted by the General-Secretariat of the Council, with the involvement of the Commission. It is based on study visits and allows an in-depth examination of how instruments or policies are working in practice.

The Commission believes that although this mechanism has proved useful and effective, it nevertheless has some **shortcomings**, in particular the total duration of the process, the scope limited to only matters related to organised crime and the limited dissemination of the evaluation results.

### Mechanism for the fight against terrorism<sup>32</sup> 2.3.3.

Following the conclusions of the extraordinary meeting of the Justice and Home Affairs Council on 20 September 2001, the Council set up a procedure for peer assessment of national anti-terrorist arrangements in the framework of international cooperation between Member States. The first round of evaluations started in 2003 and focused on exchanges of information. Evaluation teams are made up of national experts and their reports are confidential.

#### 2.3.4. Evaluation of the EU Action Plan on Drugs

In 2004 the Commission carried out the final evaluation of the EU Drugs Strategy and Action Plan on Drugs for 2000-2004<sup>33</sup>, in cooperation with the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA) and Europol. The evaluation exercise provided an overview of the drugs situation in the European Union over the reference period. The Strategy and the Action Plan included a wide range of drug-related measures, mainly within the competence of the Member States. Their impact on the drug situation in the European Union could not be considered, mainly because the EU Strategy and Action Plan failed to establish impact indicators.

The EU Action Plan on Drugs for 2005-2008 takes into account the evaluation of the preceding Action Plan and has been designed from the outset to facilitate full evaluation. Accordingly, it clearly allocates responsibilities for each action and includes specific assessment tools, indicators and schedules for implementation. The Action Plan provides for

33 COM(2004) 707.

<sup>30</sup> For further information see: http://europa.eu.int/scadplus/leg/en/lvb/133053.htm.

<sup>31</sup> Final report on the first evaluation exercise - mutual legal assistance in criminal matters (2001/C 216/02).

<sup>32</sup> Council Decision 2002/996/JHA of 28 November 2002 establishing a mechanism for evaluating the legal systems and their implementation at national level in the fight against terrorism.

the Commission to present annual reviews of implementation of the Plan plus a final evaluation in 2008, with a view to preparing the next Plan. The **first annual progress** review will be presented in **autumn 2006**.

# 2.3.5. Mechanism for evaluating respect of fundamental rights

The European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia studies the extent and development of the phenomena of racism, xenophobia and anti-Semitism and analyses their consequences and effects. Its findings are presented in annual reports. Once established, the Agency on Fundamental Rights, with its wider mandate, is expected to play a key role in evaluating respect of fundamental rights.

The **network of fundamental rights experts** was created by the European Commission in 2002 in response to a recommendation in the European Parliament's report<sup>34</sup> on the state of fundamental rights in the European Union. The network assesses the fundamental rights situation through an annual report, on the basis of an **analysis of the legislation, the case-law and the administrative practice** of the national authorities of the Member States and in the institutions of the Union. The reference points for the evaluation are the rights set out in the European Union's Charter of Fundamental Rights. The results are published annually (so far, in 2003, 2004 and 2005).

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> 2000/2231(INI).

### ANNEX 3

### Glossary

**Activity**: A coherent area of action with objectives and resources. In other words, "Activities" consist of well-defined and delimited measures to which inputs are allocated and converted into outputs.

The policy for the development of an Area of Freedom, Security and Justice has been divided into different Activity-Based Management (ABB) activities such as:

- Activity 1802 "External borders, visa policy and free movement of persons",
- Activity 1803 "Common immigration and asylum policies",
- Activity 1804 "Citizenship and fundamental rights",
- Activity 1805 "Law enforcement cooperation and prevention of and fight against general organised crime",
- Activity 1806 "Establishing a genuine European area of justice in criminal and civil matters".
- Activity 1807 "Coordination in the field of drugs".

Evaluation: "Judgement of interventions according to their results, impacts and the needs they aim to satisfy"35. It is a process undertaken by the Commission in order to identify what can be learned for policy and planning.

### Ex ante/ex post evaluation

Ex ante evaluation: Evaluation performed before implementation of a measure. For the purposes of the Commission, ex ante evaluation is defined as a process that supports the preparation of proposals for new or renewed Community activities. Its purpose is to gather information and carry out analyses that help to define objectives and to ensure that these objectives can be met, that the instruments used are cost-effective and that reliable subsequent evaluation will be possible.

Intermediate (or mid-term) evaluation: Evaluation performed during implementation of a measure. If the evaluation extends throughout the period of implementation, this is also called "on-going evaluation". This type of evaluation critically appraises the first outputs and results, in order to assess the quality of monitoring and implementation of the measure. The main focus is to help to prepare adjustments and reprogramming and to provide input for the preliminary deliberations on the future of the measures.

Ex post evaluation: Evaluation conducted either on or after completion of a measure. The main interest is overall assessment of the measure, in particular by analysing the impact



<sup>35</sup> Communication on Evaluation (SEC(2000) 1051): http://europa.eu.int/comm/budget/evaluation/keydocuments en.htm.

achieved and examining its efficiency. The objective is to understand the reasons for success or failure and the sustainability of the results and impact. It also tries to draw conclusions that can be applied generally to other measures.

**Impact:** A general term used to describe the effects of a measure on society. Impact can be either positive or negative and foreseen or unforeseen. Initial effects are called outcomes/results, whilst impact is usually longer-term.

**Impact assessment:** Impact assessment is about examining the likely economic, social and environmental impact of the Commission's proposals. It identifies and assesses the issue at stake and the objectives pursued. It identifies the main options for achieving the objectives and analyses their likely impact. It outlines the advantages and disadvantages of each option as well as synergies and trade-offs.

**Indicators**: A characteristic or attribute which can be measured to assess an activity in terms of its outputs or impacts. Output indicators are normally straightforward. Impact indicators may be more difficult to obtain, and it is often appropriate to rely on indirect indicators as proxies. Indicators can be either quantitative or qualitative.

**Monitoring:** A continuous process of examining delivery in terms of adoption and implementation of different measures, especially legislation. It is not to be confused with programme monitoring, which consists of examining the delivery of programme outputs to the intended beneficiaries. Evaluation, on the other hand, is carried out at a discrete point in time, and consists of an in-depth study. Monitoring generates data which can be used in evaluations.

**Outcomes/results:** The intermediate effects of a measure.

**Policy:** A set of activities, which may differ in type (programmes, measures, procedures, laws or rules) and beneficiaries or target groups, directed towards common general objectives or goals. Unlike projects and programmes, a policy is not usually delimited in terms of time or budget.

**Policy area**: Within the EU the concept *policy* may designate various scope and levels of complexity, ranging from an overall Commission strategy or objective over a policy area to an ABB-activity. In this context, a policy will normally embrace a range of instruments At Commission level, the ABB-activities (215 altogether) have been grouped into some 30 policy areas, closely identifiable with Directorates-General. This Communication deals with policy area 18: Freedom, security and justice.

**Policy instruments**: A set of techniques by which public authorities attempt to ensure support and to effect or prevent social change. In this sense, there is a strong emphasis on the dynamic evolving nature of policies, with individual policy instruments being added, withdrawn or redesigned over time. The variety of available policy instruments includes, for example, legislation such as regulations or directives and may involve resource commitments, for example in the form of operational programmes; they also include Communications, action plans, etc. However, policy instruments differ significantly in the way in which they bring about results and impacts and the timescales over which these can be expected.

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**Programme**: A set of organised but often varied actions (a programme may encompass several different projects, measures and processes) directed towards achieving specific objectives, often with a definite time schedule and budget.