



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 7 July 2009
(OR. en)**

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LEGISLATIVE ACTS AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS

Subject: COUNCIL DECISION setting up a European Crime Prevention Network
(EUCPN) and repealing Decision 2001/427/JHA

COUNCIL DECISION 2009/.../JHA

of

**setting up a European Crime Prevention Network (EUCPN)
and repealing Decision 2001/427/JHA**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on European Union and in particular Articles 30(1), 31 and 34(2)(c) thereof,

Having regard to the initiative of the Kingdom of Belgium, the Czech Republic, the Federal Republic of Germany, the Kingdom of Spain, the Republic of Hungary, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, the Republic of Slovakia, the Republic of Finland, the Kingdom of Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Whereas:

- (1) The Tampere European Council of 15 and 16 October 1999 concluded that there was a need to develop crime prevention measures, to exchange best practices and to strengthen the network of competent national authorities for crime prevention, as well as cooperation between national organisations specialising in this field, specifying that this cooperation could have as its chief priorities juvenile, urban and drug-related crime. To this end, a study of the possibility of a programme financed by the Community was called for.
- (2) Recommendation 6 of the European Union strategy for the beginning of the new millennium on the prevention and control of organised crime¹ calls for the Council to be assisted by suitably qualified experts on crime prevention, such as the national focal points, or by establishing a network of experts from national crime prevention organisations.
- (3) Council Decision 2001/427/JHA established a European Crime Prevention Network².
- (4) An external evaluation of the European Crime Prevention Network which was conducted in 2008-2009 identified opportunities for strengthening the Network which were accepted by the EUCPN Board and which make it necessary to repeal Decision 2001/427/JHA and to replace it by a new Council Decision concerning the Network.

¹ OJ C 124, 3.5.2000, p. 1.

² OJ L 153, 8.6.2001, p. 1.

- (5) The evaluation identified the need for more engagement in the activities of the Network by the national representatives.
- (6) A number of changes are required to strengthen the Network which include amendments to the provisions dealing with contact points, the Secretariat, the structure of the Board and its tasks, including the appointment of the Chair.
- (7) Other provisions should be based on Decision 2001/427/JHA,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

Setting-up

A European Crime Prevention Network, hereinafter referred to as "the Network", is hereby set up. It shall be regarded as the successor to the European Crime Prevention Network established by Decision 2001/427/JHA.

Article 2

Objective

1. The Network shall, through the national representatives and contact points, contribute to developing the various aspects of crime prevention at the Union level and shall support crime prevention activities at the national and local level.

2. Crime prevention shall cover all measures that are intended to reduce or otherwise contribute to reducing crime and citizens' feeling of insecurity, both quantitatively and qualitatively, either through directly deterring criminal activities or through policies and actions designed to reduce the potential for crime and the causes of crime. It includes work of government, competent authorities, criminal justice agencies, local authorities, the specialist associations they have set up in Europe, the private and voluntary sectors, researchers and the public, supported by the media.

Article 3

Structure and composition

1. The Network shall consist of a Board, a Secretariat and contact points to be designated by each Member State.
2. The Board shall be made up of national representatives, with a Chair and an Executive Committee.
3. Each Member State shall appoint a national representative. In his absence the national representative shall identify a substitute.
4. The Chair shall be appointed from within the body of the national representatives.
5. The Executive Committee shall be led by the Chair and shall be composed of up to six further members of the Board and a representative of the Commission.

6. The Commission shall designate a representative to be a member of the Executive Committee.
7. The Secretariat, to be resourced with a minimum of two full time equivalent staff, shall be provided by an external service provider selected by the Commission on the basis of a procurement procedure.
8. Contact points shall include experts in the field of crime prevention.

Article 4

Tasks of the Network

1. The Network shall, in particular:
 - (a) facilitate cooperation, contacts and exchanges of information and experience between actors in the field of crime prevention;
 - (b) collect, assess and communicate evidence-based information including good practice on existing crime prevention activities;
 - (c) organise conferences, in particular an annual Best Practice Conference, and other activities designed to promote consideration of these specific matters, and to disseminate the results thereof;
 - (d) provide its expertise to the Council and the Commission as required;

- (e) report to the Council on its activities each year, through the Board;
- (f) develop and implement a work programme based on a clearly defined strategy taking into account relevant crime threats.

Article 5
Information exchange

To accomplish its tasks, the Network shall:

- (a) favour a multidisciplinary approach;
- (b) be in close contact, through the national representatives and the contact points, with crime prevention bodies, local authorities, local partnerships and civil society as well as with research institutions and nongovernmental organisations in the Member States;
- (c) set up and maintain its own website, containing its regular reports and any other useful information, in particular a compendium of best practices;
- (d) endeavour to use and promote the results of projects, relevant for crime prevention, funded through Union programmes.

Article 6
Responsibilities

1. The Executive Committee shall develop the overall strategy of the Network to be approved by the Board. The strategy shall be expressed in the work programme, the implementation of which shall be supported by the Secretariat.
2. The tasks of the Board shall include:
 - (a) to ensure the proper functioning of the Network in accordance with this Decision;
 - (b) to approve a multi-annual strategic approach for the Network, which contributes to developing crime prevention at the Union level;
 - (c) to ensure delivery of the Network's work programme;
 - (d) to draw up an annual report of the Network's activities.
3. The Board shall adopt its Rules of Procedure by unanimous decision containing, *inter alia*, provisions on the appointment of the Chair and of the members of the Executive Committee, the decision-making arrangements of the Board and administrative arrangements for the cooperation with other entities as referred to in Article 8.

4. The Chair, the Executive Committee and the national representatives shall be supported by a Secretariat with the following tasks:
- (a) to provide administrative and general support in the preparation of meetings, seminars and conferences; to draft the annual report and the work programme; and to provide a focal point for communication with the Network members;
 - (b) to provide an analytical and support function to identify ongoing research activity in the field of crime prevention and related information that would be of use to the Network;
 - (c) to take overall responsibility for hosting, developing and maintaining the Network website.

The Board shall decide on the scope of the tasks of Secretariat and in conjunction with the Commission set out the objectives and consequent staffing requirements.

5. The national representatives shall promote the Network's activities at the national and local level and provide an interface between their Member State and the Network in order to facilitate the provision, maintenance and exchange of crime prevention material.
6. Contact points shall support national representatives in exchanging national crime prevention information and expertise within the Network.
7. The Secretariat shall report to and its performance shall be overseen by the Chair and the Executive Committee in accordance with a communication protocol agreed with the Commission.

8. The Secretariat and its activities shall be financed from the general budget of the European Union.

Article 7

Board meetings

The Board shall meet at least once during each half year in Brussels, hosted by the Commission, on the invitation of the Chair.

Article 8

Cooperation with other entities

The Network shall cooperate with entities in the Member States or in third countries, including EU agencies and international organisations, competent in the field of crime prevention.

Article 9

Evaluation

The Council shall evaluate the activities of the Network by ... *

Article 10

Repeal

Decision 2001/427/JHA is hereby repealed.

* OJ: insert please the date of three years after the adoption of this Decision.

Article 11
Taking of effect

This Decision shall take effect on the day of its adoption.

Done at Brussels,

For the Council
The President
