

## 2. COMMENTS RECEIVED AFTER MEETING ON 25 JANUARY 2021 (BLOCKS 1 AND 3)

### AUSTRIA

Please find below Austrian follow-up comments to the LEWP meeting on 25.01.2021.

Regarding the participation of Europol in the meetings of the LEWP:

Austria would strongly prefer if Europol attends the (virtual) meetings for some technical issues.

Europol can support delegations with its know how directly in the discussions if needed, for example during the discussions at the last Meeting of the LEWP regarding Article 4, para 4b “the screening of specific cases of foreign direct investments into the Union...” or Article 26, para 6b “Europol's infrastructure may be used for exchanges between the competent authorities of Member States and private parties.....”

Article 4(1), point (u):

We are of the opinion that the wordings „crisis situation“ and “recent real world event” should be further defined in this article.

Article 4, para 4b:

We wonder if this task is within the mandate of Europol. It seems that here Europol's mandate is interpreted to extensively.

Article 26, para 6b:

We strongly support this paragraph. The possibility to use Europol's infrastructure for the exchanges between Member States and private parties will be a great added value from our point of view.

Especially when a common approach seems to be more useful and effective than the implementation of different solutions in every Member State this will be very helpful.