



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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"I/A" ITEM NOTE

From: General Secretariat
To: COREPER/Council

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Subject: Draft Council Resolution on the use of police dogs in the European Union

1. The Law Enforcement Working Party (LEWP) at its meetings on 11 January, 18 February and 18 March 2011 discussed the Presidency's proposals as regards the use of police dogs in the European Union, and taking into account the comments of delegations agreed to the draft Council Resolution on this subject.
2. On this basis, COREPER is requested to invite the Council to adopt the aforementioned draft Council Resolution as set out in annex.

Draft Council Resolution on the use of police dogs in the European Union

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

1. HAVING REGARD to Article 87 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, which provides for the establishment of police cooperation involving all the Member States' competent authorities and for the support for the training and exchange of staff between such authorities,
2. WELCOMING the fact that European law enforcement cooperation is carried out efficiently in an increasing number of areas,
3. RECALLING that the Stockholm Programme¹ calls for efficient policy-making, including a more efficient implementation of European law enforcement cooperation, whose primary objective is to enhance not only the fight against terrorism and organised crime but also the fight against those forms of criminal offences with cross-border impact that can affect the daily life of European citizens,
4. NOTING that in order to foster a genuine European judicial and law enforcement culture it is essential to further develop European training schemes and implement exchange programmes for police officers inspired by Erasmus, building on the capacities of training institutions already in place, such as CEPOL and FRONTEX,
5. RECOGNISING that a coherent, integrated approach should be developed in order to make the fight against organised and serious forms of international crime more integrated, efficient, transparent and accountable, and that this could be facilitated through the establishment of common standards and the promotion of exchanges of experience between Member States by all possible means,
6. NOTING the need to facilitate the joint use of police dogs in cross-border operations in order to ensure flexible and efficient cooperation of law enforcement services,
7. NOTING the results achieved so far by FRONTEX in the field of harmonisation of training schemes for police dogs,

¹ OJ C 115, 4.5.2010. p. 1.

INVITES THE MEMBER STATES TO:

1. create a network of police dog professionals in Europe - KYNOPOL - in order to enhance cooperation and coordination of the activities of the Member States' law enforcement authorities regarding the use of police dogs,
2. designate a national contact point to participate in the activities of KYNOPOL and to serve as an information exchange centre,
3. draw up a list of such national contact points and keep it up to date by informing the General Secretariat of the Council,
4. encourage the active participation of national contact points in the work of KYNOPOL, joint training courses and operations,
5. promote the exchange of best practices on the use of police dogs within the EU via KYNOPOL,
6. consider integrating the solutions proposed by KYNOPOL into national practice and actively contributing to the efficient implementation of the proposed measures where applicable,

NOTES THAT:

7. Hungary volunteered to perform the functions of a permanent secretariat for KYNOPOL, which would organise the activities of the network, and give administrative support to the network,

INVITES THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION TO:

8. consider the possibility of providing appropriate funding to support the activities of KYNOPOL,

INVITES FRONTEX AND CEPOL TO:

9. integrate the actions related to the use of police dogs at EU level and in cross-border operations into their annual work plans,
 10. actively cooperate with KYNOPOL through the sharing of existing common training methods and knowledge in order to contribute to the success of the network.
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