

Main results of Justice and Home Affairs Council meeting of 9 and 10 June 2011

Following the Justice and Home Affairs Council meeting of 9 and 10 June 2011, the Council discussed the political guidelines for the future work of the following issues:

- Concerning progress in the area of the European E-justice portal and the implementation of its action plan, the report states that the second release will be ready for September 2011. Accordingly, the E-justice Communication via Online Data Exchange (E-CODEX) which started in January 2011 aims to develop common technical standards in the field of justice that could be used in several e-justice projects such as e-identification, e-signatures, e-payment, etc. Moreover, the report publishes online forms for European payment procedures or European small claims procedures. Last but not least, it reaches the interconnection of Member States' insolvency and land registers.
- Home Affairs' ministers proposed the rules regarding the new regulation on succession and the creation of a European certificate of succession. The draft Act determines the rules for the jurisdiction of the authorities and the law applicable to a cross-border succession which is the deceased's habitual place of residence at the time of death. Nevertheless, a person may also choose the law of the State of nationality he possesses at the time of making his choice to govern the succession to his estate. The harmonised procedure foresees mutual recognition and enforcement of decisions and authentic acts in succession matters.
- The Council, taking into account a presidency proposal for establishing a working method concerning closer cooperation and coordination in the field of EU security, suggests that terrorism, organised crime including cross-border crime and illicit trafficking, cyber-crime and cyber-security need integrated policy solutions to be developed at European Union level.
- Following a decisive political agreement, the Council agreed on the establishment of a European agency for the operational management of large scale IT systems in summer 2012. The seat of the agency will be in Tallinn, Estonia, and the tasks related to the operational management will be carried out in Strasbourg, France. The future agency will also include a Visa Information System (VIS), Schengen Information System II (SIS II) and Eurodac, and it will be responsible for the management of all the other IT systems which will be developed in the area of freedom, security and justice in the future.
- New rules will be established for the EU Border Management Agency, Frontex, concerning the secondary secondment of border guards to the Frontex joint support teams by the Member States, the monitoring of return operations as well as the establishment of a common pool of border guards for joint operations and Rabbit intervention missions.

- On legal migration, Home Affairs' ministers examined the plans to develop a comprehensive immigration policy. Two directive proposals concern the conditions of entry and residence of third country nationals in the framework of intra-corporate transfers and for the purposes of seasonal employment. The aim of these proposals is to facilitate intra-corporate transfers of skills both to the EU and within the EU and it responds effectively to the demand for managerial and qualified employees for branches and subsidiaries for multi-national companies by setting up transparent and harmonised conditions of admission of this category of workers.
- Regarding the fight against organised crime between 2011 and 2013, the Council identified the priorities against the production and distribution of drugs including synthetic and psychoactive substances, the fight against drug trafficking, particularly from West Africa, the mitigation of the role of the Western Balkans against international crime, as well as the fight against human trafficking, illegal immigration and cyber-crime. According to the plans, an initial policy strategy should be implemented between 2011 and 2013 on the basis of the EU Organised Crime Threat Assessment (OCTA).
- The Council agreed on the principles governing the proposed European Investigation Order (EIO) in criminal matters. The directive will allow EU Member States to carry out investigative measures following the decisions of other EU Member States based on the principle of mutual recognition of judicial decisions. The EIO can be used in criminal proceedings but also in those brought by administrative authorities when there is a criminal dimension.

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