

Procedure file

Basic information		
CNS - Consultation procedure	1999/0908(CNS)	Procedure lapsed or withdrawn
Police cooperation in the Union: common operational activities, information, training and exchanges of officials		
Subject 7.30.05 Police cooperation		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	LIBE Civil Liberties and Internal Affairs	PPE STEWART-CLARK Sir Jack	26/01/1999
Council of the European Union			

Key events			
17/12/1998	Legislative proposal published	14061/1998	Summary
08/02/1999	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
15/03/1999	Vote in committee		
15/03/1999	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A4-0110/1999	
23/03/1999	Decision by Parliament	T4-0215/1999	Summary

Technical information	
Procedure reference	1999/0908(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legal basis	Treaty on the European Union (after Amsterdam) M K.3-p2
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure lapsed or withdrawn
Committee dossier	LIBE/4/10742

Documentation gateway					
Legislative proposal		14061/1998	17/12/1998	CSL	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A4-0110/1999 OJ C 177 22.06.1999, p. 0003	15/03/1999	EP	

Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T4-0215/1999 OJ C 177 22.06.1999, p. 0011-0040	23/03/1999	EP	Summary
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Police cooperation in the Union: common operational activities, information, training and exchanges of officials

OBJECTIVE: to establish a system of police cooperation, operational within the EU. CONTENT: with regulation of police cooperation already being updated and completed apace, this draft joint action, which is based on Article K.3 of the Treaty on European Union, proposes a series of concrete measures in this area in order to further strengthen the security of Member States. In this respect, the draft joint action considers that police cooperation should increasingly consist of common operational activities. As a result, in coordination with current forms of cooperation (EUROPOL and CIREFI), the proposal involves a targeted realisation of projects in support of cooperation between police forces, without compromising sovereignty. Within this framework, the draft joint action proposes the following measures: - a permanent exchange of information in the main areas of the fight against crime in the Member States, as well as in important projects in the field of policing and which have implications on other Member States' interests in terms of security; - a coordinated fight against international crime carried out through networks; - training of teams of investigators/inspectors and mixed patrols (the officials despatched having the status of liaison officers without the power of execution); - exchanges of police officials from all countries in the shape of lengthy training courses; - continuing training sessions as well as common intervention exercises; - harmonisation of communication systems between the police forces of the Member States. In order that these themes and others be tackled in an appropriate manner, provision is made for the establishment of an institutional framework which incorporates the needs of police analysis and concrete coordination activities (with the participation exclusively of experts), in order to guarantee a sufficient level of confidentiality. Rather than establishing a new 'ad hoc' working group for these tasks, it is instead proposed that the current 'police cooperation' working group within the Council be used. This group will meet whenever needed and will be made up of high-level police officials from the Member States. The equivalent officials from the applicant countries may also attend certain of these meetings as observers.?

Police cooperation in the Union: common operational activities, information, training and exchanges of officials

The Parliament adopted the draft action with some amendments. The rapporteur was Sir Jack Stewart-Clark (EPP, UK). The amendments cover, among other things: - the establishment of an effective information exchange and setting up an Early Warning System of criminal activities; - the conducting of investigations of routes used for illegal activities and the transport of illegal goods; - the establishment of mixed inspection operations at the external borders, including harbours and airports; - exchanges of customs and other competent law enforcement teams for joint investigations against criminal organisations active in several or all Member States; - the harmonisation of technical communications systems between Member States' police, customs and other competent law enforcement authorities. The amendments also seek a greater role for Europol in discussions, planning and the implementation of measures.?