salzburg forum
dialogue on internal security

MEETING OF THE POLICE CHIEFS

OF THE SALZBURG FORUM MEMBER STATES
4 – 6 December 2018
Slovak Republic - Modra

CONCLUSIONS

Representatives of the Salzburg Forum Member States met on 4 - 6 December 2018 to discuss the state of play regarding the future interoperability of the information systems of the European Union and the impact of the draft regulations of the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union on police practice. Interoperability and its implementation at national level in Member States of the European Union will be based on two drafts of the below mentioned regulations:

– Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on establishing a framework for interoperability between EU information systems (borders and visa) and amending Council Decision 2004/512/EC, Regulation (EC) No 767/2008, Council Decision 2008/633/JHA, Regulation (EU) 2016/399 and Regulation (EU) 2017/2226;

– Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on establishing a framework for interoperability between EU information systems (police and judicial cooperation, asylum and migration).

The above draft regulations are based on the conclusions of the European Council of 22 -23 June 2017, taking into account the recommendations of the High Level Working Group on Information Systems and Interoperability. The legislative process for the adoption of the draft regulations is currently at the stage of political and technical trialogues with anticipated adoption of the legal acts in 2019.

The representatives of the participating countries:

– informed each other on the state of play regarding the use of national, European and international information systems in individual Member States, especially in terms of their user-centered and technical solutions; expressed the view that there is no need to create identical workplaces, the so-called "Single Points of Contact" for "post-hit" procedures, but existing structures will continue to be used;

– expressed their belief that the implementation of interoperability will require legislative and technical changes as well as increased financial and human resources.

Eu-LISA Agency presented its role as a central point for interconnecting information systems, and its strategy aimed at creating an interoperability framework. Europol provided the participants in the meeting with the information on its task to serve as a data source for automated control with the existence of links to individual components and the central information systems of the interoperability framework.

The representatives of the participating countries agreed that a swift and effective exchange of information is one of the key tools in ensuring the security of all European Union citizens and in combating crime, in particular terrorism and illegal migration.

The participants supported the idea of setting up the interoperability of information systems as an effective and necessary tool to ensure rapid, smooth, systematic and controlled access to information in order to better protect the external borders of the European Union, improve migration management and step up the internal security of the European Union and its citizens.

The participants expressed their willingness to support, within the scope of their competences, the implementation of the main ideas of the concept of establishing interoperability of the information systems of the European Union for the governance of internal security, in particular through creating appropriate conditions for the successful and smooth implementation of the two related proposals of the European Parliament and of the Council of the European Union.

The participants also agreed on the need for mutual support, in particular through the exchange of information, sharing of experience and best practices in other international forums, expert deliberations and working groups, or through the existing channels of international police cooperation.

Modra, 6 December 2018