



Brussels, 12 December 2011

BACKGROUND¹
JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS COUNCIL
Brussels, 13 and 14 December 2011

*The Justice and Home Affairs Council (JHA) will hold a two-day meeting on Tuesday, 13 and Wednesday, 14 December 2011 under the chair of **Mr Jacek CICHOCKI**, Minister for the Interior, and **Mr Jarosław GOWIN**, Minister for Justice, in the Justus Lipsius building in Brussels.*

*On Tuesday, home affairs ministers will look at a number of Schengen related issues: First, regarding new rules for the more effective **governance of the Schengen area**, the Council will examine a number of outstanding issues of the two proposed regulations: One concerns the establishment of an evaluation and monitoring mechanism to verify the application of the Schengen acquis, the other concerns common rules on the temporary reintroduction of border controls in exceptional circumstances. Still on Schengen, ministers will revert to the question of **Schengen accession of Bulgaria and Romania**.*

*The Council will also discuss the state-of-play concerning negotiations on revised rules governing the **EU's visa free regime**. On asylum, the Council will look at the state-of-play of the different legal instruments aimed to improve the **Common European Asylum System (CEAS)**. On migration, the Council will take note of a presidency paper regarding the **EU response to increased migration pressures**. Ministers will also hold a first exchange of views on the Commission communication on a "**Global approach to migration and mobility**".*

*Regarding terrorism related issues, the Council is expected to take a decision on the signing of the **EU-US PNR agreement** and request the European Parliament to give its consent. The EU Counter-terrorism coordinator will present three documents for discussion: his most recent report on the **EU Action Plan on combating terrorism**, his latest **discussion paper** on the EU Counter-terrorism strategy and his report on the implementation of the **revised strategy for terrorist financing**. The latter has been drawn up in cooperation with the Commission.*

*Ministers will also be informed about the **EU-US ministerial meeting** on justice and home affairs issues which took place in November.*

*Furthermore, the Council will have a first exchange of views on the package of justice and home affairs related Commission proposals in the context of the **multiannual financial framework (2014-2020)**.*

¹ This note has been drawn up under the responsibility of the Press office.

*On Wednesday, justice ministers will try to agree on a general approach regarding a directive establishing minimum standards on the **rights, support and protection of victims of crime**. The Council will also seek a general approach on a **European investigation order** on criminal matters.*

*Ministers will also aim to reach agreement on the text of the regulation on jurisdiction, applicable law, recognition and enforcement of decisions and authentic instruments in matters of **succession** and the creation of a European Certificate of Succession. On the recast of a regulation on jurisdiction and the recognition and enforcement of **judgments in civil and commercial matters** (the so-called "Brussels I" regulation), approval of the political guidelines for further works concerning the abolition of *exequatur* is expected.*

*Ministers will also be briefed by the Presidency on the state-of-play concerning a proposal for a regulation on the **Common European Sales Law** and will take note of a progress report on a directive on the **right of access to a lawyer** and on the right to communicate upon arrest.*

*In the margins of the Council, the Mixed Committee (the EU plus Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Switzerland) will examine the state-of-play of the implementation of the **Schengen Information System II (SIS II)** and discuss the problems posed by **cross-border itinerant criminality**.*

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Schengen governance

The Council will examine a number of issues concerning the two legislative proposals for the establishment of a reinforced Schengen governance, namely:

- a) a regulation on the establishment of an evaluation and monitoring mechanism to verify the application of the Schengen acquis ([14358/11](#)); and
- b) an amendment to the Schengen Borders Code as regards the rules for the temporary reintroduction of border controls at internal borders in exceptional circumstances ([14359/11](#)).

Concerning the Schengen evaluation and monitoring mechanism, ministers are expected to focus on the question of the legal basis. While the Commission based its proposal on Article 77(2) TFEU, which requires co-decision with the European Parliament (ordinary legislative procedure), a considerable number of member states as well as the Council Legal Service argue that the correct legal basis should be Article 70 TFEU. This article enables the Council, on a proposal from the Commission, to adopt by qualified majority arrangements on mutual evaluations. The ordinary legislative procedure would not apply. It would nevertheless be possible to associate the European Parliament through consultation.

Concerning the rules for the temporary reintroduction of border controls at internal borders, the Council is expected to mainly address the question of whether, as the Commission proposal suggests, more powers should be conferred to the Commission (through comitology).

Concerning the application of a safeguard clause in case of persisting inability of a member state to correctly apply the Schengen acquis on its external borders, ministers are expected to focus on the question which body should have the power to decide on the need to reintroduce internal border controls.

For more information on the initial Commission proposals, see this [background note](#) (p. 7-9).

Schengen enlargement: Bulgaria and Romania

The Council will revert to the question of when Bulgaria and Romania will be able to join the Schengen area.

The current proposal suggests to abolish checks on persons at internal sea and air borders with and between Bulgaria and Romania on 25 March 2012. At the same time, the two countries would fully join the Schengen Information System (SIS). As to the abolition of checks on persons at internal land borders, a decision would be taken by the Council no later than 31 July 2012.

So far, however, the required unanimity on such a decision could not be reached.

EU visa free regime

The Council will aim to reach a general approach on the Commission proposal to amend the rules governing the EU's visa free regime ([10834/11](#)). This would allow for negotiations with the European Parliament to start.

Ministers will focus their discussion on the proposed introduction of a safeguard clause allowing the temporary reintroduction of the visa requirement for citizens of a third country whose nationals can normally travel to the EU without a visa. The proposed safeguard clause is of a general nature. It does not target any particular third country or region.

The amendments tabled in May 2011 concern regulation 539/2001 listing the third countries whose nationals must be in possession of visas when crossing the external borders and those whose nationals are exempt from that requirement.

Common European Asylum System

The Council will look at the state-of-play of negotiations on the different legislative proposals concerning the Common European Asylum System (CEAS) as described in a presidency paper ([18170/11](#)). It can be summarized as follows:

- The Dublin regulation establishes the procedures for determining the member state responsible for examining an application for international protection. Further progress has been made, in particular concerning a proposal to introduce a mechanism for early warning, preparedness and management of crisis aimed at evaluating the practical functioning of national asylum systems, assisting member states in need and preventing asylum crisis. Such a mechanism would concentrate on adopting measures that aim to prevent asylum crises from developing rather than addressing the consequences of such crises once they have occurred.
- The qualification directive providing for better, clearer and more harmonised standards for identifying persons in need of international protection was adopted in November 2011 ([17435/11](#)).
- The asylum procedures and reception conditions directives: Revised proposals were tabled by the Commission on 1 June 2011 ([11207/11](#) and [11214/11](#), respectively). Significant progress has been made across the two instrument. Work on both instruments continues.
- The Eurodac regulation: Discussions on amendments to the rules regulating this fingerprint database are on hold awaiting a Commission proposal which would permit law enforcement access, as requested by member states.

Two other agreements related to the CEAS have been reached so far. They concern the [long term residence directive](#) and the creation of the [European Asylum Support Office \(EASO\)](#) which started operations earlier this year.

The European Council confirmed in its conclusions in June 2011 ([EUCO 23/11](#)) that negotiations on the different elements of the CEAS should be concluded by 2012.

EU response to increase migration pressure

The Council will take note of a presidency paper regarding the EU response to increased migration pressures.

The report underlines that illegal immigration is a multidimensional phenomenon that demands a comprehensive response, and highlights the main challenges faced by the EU at present, including: irregular crossings of the EU's external borders; abuses of legal migration channels, such as visa overstayers and abuses of asylum procedures; and smuggling and trafficking in human beings, often resulting in forced labour and the sexual exploitation of migrants, especially women and children.

The report also suggests priorities for future measures: cooperation with third countries of transit and origin; concrete solidarity between member states; enhanced and coordinated operational activities; mobilisation of appropriate financial means in the upcoming multiannual financial framework (2014-20); the further development of new tools, such as the Visa Information System (VIS) and EUROSUR.

Global approach to migration and mobility

The Council will hold a first exchange of views on the Commission communication on a "Global approach to migration and mobility" ([17254/11](#) + [ADD 1](#)).

Among other things, the Commission proposes to center EU action in the area around four equally important operational priorities:

- organising and facilitating legal migration and mobility;
- preventing and reducing irregular migration and trafficking in human beings;
- promoting international protection and enhancing the external dimension of asylum policy; and
- maximising the development impact of migration and mobility.

The communication also suggests geographical priorities and implementation mechanisms and addresses the questions of appropriate funding and monitoring.

The communication follows the a previous Commission communication on migration of 4 May 2011 ([9731/11](#)).

EU-US PNR agreement

The Council is expected to give the green light for the signing of a new EU-US PNR agreement (17434/11) which will replace the existing one, provisionally applied since 2007. After that, the European Parliament will be asked to give its consent to the agreement, which is necessary before the Council can adopt its decision on the conclusion of the agreement.

The EU currently has agreements on the transfer and use of passenger name records (PNR) with Australia, Canada and the United States of America. In May 2010, the European Parliament decided to postpone its vote on the request for consent on these existing PNR agreements with the US and Australia. These two agreements have therefore not been concluded yet and have been applied on a provisional basis since 2007 and 2008, respectively. In a resolution, Parliament demanded that new agreements should be negotiated with the US and Australia as well as with Canada, with which a PNR agreement has been in force since 2006.

While the PNR agreement with Australia has been already ratified by the EU ([10093/11](#)) and negotiations with the US are finalised, those on a revised PNR agreement with Canada are still ongoing.

PNR data is the information voluntarily provided by passengers and collected by air carriers during the reservation and check-in procedures. It includes information such as name, dates of travel and travel itinerary, ticket information, address and phone numbers, means of payment used, credit card number, travel agent, seat number and baggage information.

Fight against terrorism

The Council will discuss three terrorism related documents presented by the EU Counter-terrorism coordinator:

Discussion paper on the EU Counter-terrorism strategy

In his discussion paper on the implementation of the EU Counter-terrorism strategy (17595/11), the EU Counter-Terrorism Coordinator focuses on five key challenges to be addressed as a matter of priority and makes a number of recommendations.

These key issues are:

- understanding the evolving threat of terrorism which doesn't come from a single source;
- increasing the coherence of the EU's internal and external policies;
- improving the technical response to an evolving threat: security related research;
- how to further increase transport security; and
- how to tackle terrorist financing more effectively.

The EU Counter-Terrorism Strategy was adopted in December 2005 and provides the framework for EU activity in this field ([14469/4/05](#)). Every six months, the Counter-terrorism coordinator submits a discussion paper to the Council giving his assessment of the terrorism threat and highlighting key challenges to be addressed.

Report on the EU Action Plan on combating terrorism

The report on the Action Plan on combating terrorism ([17594/1/11](#)) gives an overview of the latest results in the four strands of the strategy (prevent, protect, pursue and prepare) and lists those areas where measures are due to be taken.

Report on the implementation of the revised strategy for terrorist financing

The report on the implementation of the revised strategy for terrorist financing ([15062/11](#)), drawn up in cooperation with the Commission, highlights a number of issues: recent trends in terrorist financing have shown that terrorism and crime tend to be increasingly linked with each other; terrorist groups rely increasingly on ransom money for their financing (amounts which in some places far exceed any other financing methods); terrorist groups are increasingly dependant on cash couriers and informal remittances.

The report makes a number of recommendations how to implement the strategy more effectively, including through better monitoring of the implementation of various important legal instruments, more efficient threat analysis, better cooperation between member states' financial intelligence units, more cooperation with the private sector as well as better international cooperation.

A revised strategy on terrorist financing was endorsed by the Council in July 2008 ([11778/1/08](#)). It tasked the Counter-terrorism coordinator, in cooperation with the Commission, with ensuring the follow-up.

EU-US JHA ministerial meeting

The Council will be informed about the outcome of the EU-US JHA ministerial meeting which took place on 21 November 2011.

The issues discussed at the meeting included negotiations on a EU-US PNR agreement, on a EU-US data protection agreement, counter-terrorism as well as cybercrime/cybersecurity issues, migration and mobility cooperation, negotiations on a common European sales law as well as the implementation of the EU-US extradition and mutual legal assistance treaties.

Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) 2014-2020 - Home Affairs

The Council will have a first exchange of views on the Commission communication "Building an open and secure Europe: the Home Affairs budget for 2014-2020" ([17284/11](#)), as well as on the accompanying package of legislative proposals in the context of the multiannual financial framework (2014-2020):

- a regulation laying down general provisions on the Asylum and Migration Fund and on the instrument for financial support for police cooperation, preventing and combating crime, and crisis management ([17285/11](#));
- two regulations establishing, as part of the Internal Security Fund, the instrument for financial support for
- external borders and visa ([17290/11](#));
- police cooperation, preventing and combating crime and crisis management ([17287/11](#));
- a regulation establishing the Asylum and Migration Fund ([17289/11](#)).

Victims of crime

The Council is expected to agree on a general approach on the articles of a directive establishing minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime ([18241/11](#)). This would allow to start negotiations with the European Parliament.

The presidency has aimed at having a balanced text, in terms of reconciling the needs of victims on the one hand and the requirement to maintain smooth proceedings and to take into account financial considerations of the member states on the other.

The text, which is based on a Commission proposal submitted in May 2011 ([10610/11](#) + [ADD 1](#) + [ADD 2](#)), aims to amend and expand the existing provisions on the standing of victims in criminal proceedings and includes provisions on information and support, participation in criminal provisions, recognition of vulnerability and protection of victims as well as general provisions concerning the training of practitioners and co-operation and co-ordination of services.

At their October meeting, ministers held an orientation debate on certain key issues of the draft directive, such as the scope of certain rights: the right to information (Article 5), to interpretation and translation (Article 7), and to reimbursement of expenses (Article 13) and the criteria for the identification of vulnerable victims (Articles 21).

A majority of ministers agreed to the approach suggested by the presidency that rights conferred in this directive should be granted in accordance with the role of victims in the relevant criminal justice system. While it was pointed out that an excessively broad scope of rights granted to victims could possibly impede the course of proceedings and create an additional administrative burden, it was also recalled that this directive lays down minimum rules, and member states may extend the rights set out in this directive in order to provide a higher level of protection.

The Council also confirmed that children should always be presumed vulnerable. Apart from that, however, ministers agreed that there should be no indicative list of vulnerable victims in the operative part of the text as suggested by the Commission and all other victims should be treated on a case-by-case basis. They should receive, as a point of departure, a timely and individual assessment, in accordance with national procedures, to determine whether they are vulnerable (e.g. to secondary and repeat victimisation or intimidation) and what protection measures they need.

It was also mentioned that the directive should not affect more far-reaching provisions contained in other EU acts which address the specific needs of vulnerable victims in a more targeted manner (e.g. the directive on trafficking in human beings and the directive on combating sexual exploitation of children).

European Investigation Order

The Council will seek a general approach on a European investigation order (EIO) on criminal matters. This would allow to start negotiations with the European Parliament.

The goal of the directive which is an initiative of seven member states¹ presented in April 2010 ([9288/10](#)) is to allow member states to carry out investigative measures at the request of another member state on the basis of mutual recognition. The investigative measures would, for example, include interviewing witnesses, searches and seizures, and (with additional safeguards) interception of telecommunications, observation, infiltration and monitoring of bank accounts.

The United Kingdom decided to participate in the EIO. Ireland has not yet decided to do so and Denmark is not taking part.

Once adopted, the new rules would replace the current patchwork of legal provisions in this area with a single new instrument aiming to make legal cooperation on investigations faster and more efficient. It would introduce automatic mutual recognition of investigation orders and limit the grounds for refusing to execute the order by another EU state while at the same time providing legal remedies to protect the defence rights of concerned persons. Finally, it would for the first time set deadlines for carrying out the investigative measures.

¹ Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Estonia, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden.

The agreement covers the following general issues:

- Scope: The EIO can be used in criminal proceedings, but also in those brought by administrative authorities when there is a criminal dimension.
- Grounds for non-recognition or non-execution: A number of safeguards ensure that an EIO will not be executed if it could harm national security interests or immunities established in the executing state, for instance rules limiting criminal liability relating to freedom of the press.
- Legal remedies: Member states must ensure that interested parties are entitled to legal remedies equivalent to those available in a similar domestic case and that they are properly informed of these possibilities. Legal remedies may be brought in both the issuing and the executing state.
- Deadlines for the execution of the EIO: Member states must acknowledge receipt of an EIO within 30 days and carry out the investigation measure within 90 days.
- Costs: Save in exceptional circumstances, the executing state bears the costs of the measures carried out in its territory.

Succession

The Council will try to reach general agreement on the text of the regulation on jurisdiction, applicable law, recognition and enforcement of decisions and authentic instruments in matters of succession and the creation of a European Certificate of Succession. The initial proposal was presented by the Commission in October 2009 ([14722/09](#) + [14722/09 ADD 2](#)).

The proposed rules have the potential to make life easier for heirs, legatees and other interested parties by a number of provisions, including:

- The draft act provides for the application of a basic connecting factor for determining both the jurisdiction of the courts and the law applicable to a succession with cross-border implications, namely the deceased's habitual residence at the time of death. The proposed Regulation will also allow a person to choose as the law to govern the succession the law of the State of his/her nationality. This rule would take some of the stress out of estate planning by creating predictability.
- The proposed rules will ensure mutual recognition and enforcement of decisions and mutual acceptance and enforcement of authentic instruments in succession matters.
- A European Certificate of Succession would be created to enable persons to prove their status and/or rights as heirs or their powers as administrator of the estate or executor of the will without further formalities. This should result in faster and cheaper procedures for all those involved in a succession with cross-border implications.

The UK and Ireland have not yet notified that they will participate in the final adoption of the regulation, but have participated actively in the negotiations. Denmark will not take part in the adoption of the proposed regulation.

Judgements in civil and commercial matters

The Council will discuss political guidelines on key issue regarding the recast of a regulation on jurisdiction and the recognition and enforcement of judgments in civil and commercial matters aimed at the abolition of "exequatur", i.e. the procedure for recognition and enforcement of a judgment in another member state. The guidelines proposed by the presidency respond to an appeal of the Stockholm Programme to make the free circulation of the court decisions in civil and commercial matters easier, faster and cheaper to the citizens.

The recast, which is a overhaul of the so-called "Brussels I" regulation (Council regulation (EC) No 44/2001), was presented by the Commission in December 2010 ([18101/10](#) + [ADD 1](#) + [ADD 2](#)). It aims to remove the remaining obstacles to the free movement of judicial decisions in line with the principle of mutual recognition.

The UK and Ireland have decided to take part in the adoption of the revised regulation. Denmark will not participate.

'Brussels I' entered into force in March 2002 and established common EU wide rules on jurisdiction in civil and commercial matters. It clarifies which court is competent in a cross-border dispute and facilitates the recognition and enforcement of a judgement issued by the courts in one EU member state in another member state.

While the regulation is generally considered to work successfully, the Commission identified a number of deficiencies in the current operation of the regulation, including:

- The procedure for recognition and enforcement of a judgment in another member state ("exequatur") remains an obstacle to the free circulation of judgments which entails unnecessary costs and delays for the parties involved and deters companies and citizens from making full use of the internal market.
- Access to justice in the EU is generally unsatisfactory in disputes involving defendants from outside the EU. With some exceptions, the current regulation only applies where the defendant is domiciled inside the EU. Otherwise jurisdiction is governed by national law. The diversity of national laws leads to unequal access to justice for EU companies in transactions with partners from third countries.
- The efficiency of choice of court agreements needs to be improved. Currently, the regulation enables litigants acting in bad faith to delay the resolution of the dispute in the agreed forum by first seizing a non-competent court. This possibility creates additional costs and delays and undermines the legal certainty and predictability of dispute resolution which choice of court agreements should bring about.

- The interface between arbitration and litigation needs to be improved. Currently, arbitration is excluded from the scope of the regulation. However, by challenging an arbitration agreement before a court, a party may effectively undermine the arbitration agreement and create a situation of inefficient parallel court proceedings which may lead to irreconcilable resolutions of the dispute. This leads to additional costs and delays, undermines the predictability of dispute resolution and creates incentives for abusive litigation tactics.

During the December Council the presidency will introduce the effect of the examination of the first issue mentioned above. However, still a few details are open for further negotiation, the new reformulated system of recognition and enforcement of judgments proposed by the presidency will be approved as a general rule. Further works should be taken in the direction framed in the political guidelines.

Common European Sales Law

The Council is expected to take note of the state-of-play of negotiations on the proposal for a Common European Sales Law on the basis of a presidency paper (18353/11). The Commission proposal of the regulation was submitted in October 2011 ([15429/11](#)).

Following the first exchanges of views, the Polish presidency concludes that among the aspects of the proposal that require thorough discussion are the personal, material and territorial scope of the proposal, the complexity of linking the proposal with the different national legal systems, the modalities and consequences of choosing the instrument, the consequences of an invalid choice, the consumer protection rules relating to the choice and the reporting obligations of member states, including the envisaged online database of judgments.

On the methodology of negotiations, the presidency paper suggests to deal with the legal basis for the instrument when at least some of the content-specific issues have been settled and the merits of the economic impact of the proposal has been sufficiently evaluated.

The regulation as proposed by the Commission would give businesses and consumers coming from different countries an alternative to doing business under the rules of one or the other country which both parties might not be familiar with. The two contracting parties could agree to voluntarily choose an alternative second set of rules for their cross-border sales contracts identical in each of the member states and co-existing with the regular national sales laws.

The goal of the proposal is to enhance growth and trade in the internal market by decreasing business costs related to diverging national contract laws and consumers' reluctance to shop cross-border. The guiding principles are freedom of contract and a high level of consumer protection. The proposal assumes that this alternative set of rules would stimulate more cross-border business.

The alternative sales law would be available to contracts on the sales of goods and supply of digital content, as well as directly related services. It would be open to business-to-consumer contracts as well as those business-to-business contracts where at least one party is a small or medium-sized enterprise (SME). It is important to underline that both parties to a cross-border contract would need to agree to use this alternative, European sales law regime.

The new rules would cover most issues of contract law that are considered of practical relevance during the life-cycle of a cross-border contract, including rights and obligations of the parties and the remedies for non-performance, pre-contractual information duties, the right of withdrawal and its consequences, interpretation and the contents and effects of a contract.

In order to ensure effective and uniform application, the proposal envisages as future supporting measures the development of “European model contract terms” and the creation of a publicly accessible database of relevant judicial decisions.

Access to a lawyer

The Council will take note of a progress report on a directive concerning the right of access to a lawyer and the right to communicate upon arrest with consular authorities and with a third person, such as a relative or an employer ([18215/11](#)).

The progress report analyses the main issues so far discussed, including: the scope of the directive, the situations in which the right of access to a lawyer should be given, possible derogations, the information upon deprivation of liberty, the right of access to a lawyer in European arrest warrant proceedings as well as the issues of remedies.

The Commission presented this proposal in June 2011 ([11497/11](#)). The UK and Ireland have decided not to opt-in in the adoption of this Directive at this stage, but they participate actively in the discussions and may decide to opt-in at a later stage.

For more information, see this previous [background note](#).

Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) 2014-2020 - Justice Affairs

In the context of the multiannual financial framework (2014-2020), the Council will hold a first exchange of views on two proposals for regulations establishing the Justice programme ([17278/11](#)) and the Rights and Citizenship programme ([17273/11](#)).

The proposals will be presented to the ministers by the Commission.

Mixed Committee

In the margins of the Council session, the Mixed Committee (the EU plus Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Switzerland) will discuss the following subjects:

SIS II

The presidency will present to the committee an overview of the main developments during the past six months on the implementation of the Schengen Information System II (SIS II). It is planned that the SIS II enters into operation by the first quarter of 2013.

The Schengen Information System (SIS) is a common database for the border and migration authorities, as well as law enforcement authorities, of the participating countries on persons as well as on lost and stolen objects. Specific stringent data protection rules apply to the SIS. It is a compensatory measure for the opening of the internal borders under the Schengen agreement, but it is also seen as a vital security factor in the EU. The European Commission is currently developing a second generation of the SIS, commonly called the SIS II.

Cross-border itinerant criminality

The committee will look at the problems posed by cross-border itinerant criminality.

In December 2010 the Council adopted [conclusions](#) on the fight against crimes committed by mobile (itinerant) criminal groups.

Schengen governance

The committee will examine the two legislative proposal for the establishment of a reinforced Schengen governance as mentioned in the separate item above.

EU visa free regime

The committee will discuss the suspension clause from the Commission proposal to amend the rules governing the EU's visa free regime ([10834/11](#)). The amendments tabled in May 2011 concern regulation 539/2001 listing the third countries whose nationals must be in possession of visas when crossing the external borders and those whose nationals are exempt from that requirement.

See separate item above.

Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) 2014-2020 - Home Affairs

The committee will have a first exchange of views on two regulations establishing, as part of the Internal Security Fund, the instrument for financial support for external borders and visa ([17290/11](#)) as well as for police cooperation, preventing and combating crime and crisis management ([17287/11](#)). They are part of the Commission proposals in the context of the multiannual financial framework (2014-2020). See separate item above.

EU response to increase migration pressure

The committee will look at a joint Presidency and Commission position paper regarding the EU response to increased migration pressures. See separate item above.
