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NOTE

From:	Presidency/outgoing Presidency
To:	Delegations
No. prev. doc.:	10991/1/19 REV 1
Subject:	Implementation of the renewed EU Internal Security Strategy: joint Presidency paper

Delegations will find attached the joint paper of the outgoing Finnish Presidency and the Croatian Presidency on the implementation of the renewed EU Internal Security Strategy.

In line with the Council conclusions of 12 October 2017 on the mid-term review of the Renewed Internal Security Strategy¹ the implementation paper presents a structure based on priorities, on the planning and implementation of the renewed EU Internal Security Strategy 2019.

¹ 13319/17

It consists of two parts:

- **A general report** providing an overview of the progress achieved during the reporting period in the main priorities of the renewed ISS and a number of cross-cutting priority areas, while focusing on the main achievements and setting out the follow up envisaged by the current Presidency, as relevant.
- **Technical follow-up on specific measures.**

Delegations are invited to express their views on the state of implementation of the renewed ISS.

Renewed EU Internal Security Strategy: General Report on the implementation and planning (2019)

1. Renewed Internal Security Strategy priorities

1. 1. Countering terrorism and preventing radicalisation and violent extremism

The fight against terrorism continued to be a high priority on the Council agenda.

The FI Presidency continued working along the lines indicated by the Ministers at the 2019 March JHA-Council, where Ministers highlighted the need for timely implementation of adopted measures rather than introducing new legislative measures. They also agreed to:

- continue focusing on prevention of radicalisation and violent extremism (online and offline);
- step up the work on terrorist financing, and in particular the coordination between relevant stakeholders;
- pay closer attention to emerging threats, and also to the opportunities and challenges stemming from new technologies;
- enhance the internal/external nexus at all levels;
- increase the JHA-agencies' support to the Member States, and provide adequate resources for this purpose under the next MFF.

In the area of **preventing radicalisation and violent extremism**, the European Council in October 2018 called for strengthening the capacity to prevent and respond effectively to radicalisation and terrorism, in full respect of fundamental rights. Following an assessment of the effects of the voluntary cooperation with industry on tackling terrorist content online, the Commission on 12 September 2018 proposed a Regulation **preventing the dissemination of terrorist content online**. On 6 December 2018, the Council reached a general approach on this proposal².

² 15336/18

The EP agreed on a negotiating mandate on 17 April 2019, when a first reading position was reached. However, due to the EP elections, the trilogues began under the FI Presidency only after the EP received a mandate to begin the trilogues. Under the FI Presidency a kick off trilogue took place on 17 October 2019, a second trilogue took place on 20 November and a third on 12 December 2019. Discussions will continue under the Croatian Presidency which aims to have an agreement as soon as possible.

Based on recommendations identified through a study visit organised under the framework of the project based approach³, and based on the EU threat assessment in the field of terrorism, endorsed by the Standing Committee on Operational Cooperation on Internal Security (COSI) in May 2019, the Presidency, emphasising the need to address terrorism in all its forms, introduced the discussion on right-wing violent extremism and terrorism in the TWP-meeting of 12 September 2019. The discussion was facilitated by a discussion paper provided by the EU Counter-Terrorism Coordinator⁴ and was followed by a discussion in COSI on 26 September 2019⁵. At the Justice and Home Affairs (JHA) Council on 8 October 2019⁶, right-wing violent extremism and terrorism was deemed a topical issue, and Ministers endorsed the Presidency's suggestion to continue the work in the relevant Council structures, based on four work strands⁷ working jointly to prevent and combat right-wing violent extremism and terrorism. More generally, the FI Presidency focused the discussions in the TWP on future trends and threats of terrorism and violent extremism with a view to ensure the preparedness to respond and tackle these threats and offering food for thought for future EU level action.

³ The Project Based Approach was a recommendation of the High Level Commission Expert Group on Radicalisation, to encourage groups of interested Member States to collaborate on topics of common interest.

⁴ 11756/19 + ADD 1

⁵ 12225/19

⁶ 12494/19

⁷ 14132/19

The EU Internet Forum⁸, which met at ministerial level back-to-back with the JHA-Council on 7-8 October 2019 and will meet at senior officials' level in spring to further advance collaboration in this field, focused on the EU Crisis Protocol to respond to terrorist attacks with a significant online component, and on right wing violent extremism. This was equally the theme of the annual seminar of the European Counter Terrorism Centre in December 2019.

The 2018 recommendations of the High Level Commission Expert Group on Radicalisation (HLCEG-R)⁹ are being implemented. The Commission set up an EU Cooperation Mechanism. It includes a Steering Board with high level Member States' representatives, set up in August 2018, which advises the Commission on the strategic priorities in the area of preventative work at EU level, and a reinforced Support and Coordinated Structure (Task Force) within the Commission. On 16 September 2019, a new unit was created within the Commission (DG HOME) responsible for prevention of radicalisation and violent extremism. The HLCEG-R highlighted several areas of collaboration, reflected in the 2019 Strategic Orientations, which Member States decided to work on. Member States initiated specific projects on radicalisation in prisons, training of imams, mental health issues, the evaluation of exit programmes, far right extremism, national support for local authorities and knowledge management, in particular the interaction of knowledge between research and public policies. In July 2019, the FI Presidency discussed EU priorities on countering violent extremism, including the planned assessment of the progress made in implementing the priorities as well as the EU cooperation mechanism. At the TWP meetings in September and November 2019, focus was on radicalisation/countering violent extremism (CVE) with a specific focus on the violent right-wing extremism during the September meeting. Furthermore, on 17-18 September, a conference "Stepping up CVE actions" was held in Helsinki with the aim of checking the tools used to counter violent extremism, evaluating their effect and reflecting the preparedness for future trends and threats in CVE. The November TWP-meeting focused on violent radicalisation, social media and narratives, as a follow-up to the September Helsinki conference. The incoming Croatian Presidency have announced a TWP-meeting dedicated to "Radicalisation of vulnerable groups" on 15 April 2019.

⁸ The Forum was launched in December 2015 by the Commission. It is a voluntary partnership with major internet companies. It pursues two key objectives: 1) to reduce accessibility to terrorist content online; and 2) to empower civil society partners to increase the volume of effective alternative narratives online.

⁹ 8951/18

Following up on the signature of the Joint Action Plan (JAP) on CT for the Western Balkans (WB), the last three tailor-made arrangements with the WB partners were signed at the Ministerial 18 - 19 November 2019. The first TWP-meeting under Croatian Presidency on 16 January 2020, which will include a half-day joint meeting with COTER, will focus on the Western Balkans, including how to reinforce the external dimension of the fight against radicalisation through partnerships and the fight against arms smuggling.

Developments in relation to the situation in Northern Syria, and the impact on foreign terrorist fighters (FTFs), their (possible) return to EU Member States, and, with a particular focus on EU nationals detained in Syria, Iraq and Turkey continued to be closely monitored under the FI Presidency. Repatriation is treated as a strictly national matter. Exchange of information on best practices on how to deal with FTF returnees, incl. women and children, and discussions of possible EU support measures, including in relation to border controls, do take place. The March TWP meeting will be dedicated to returnees from the conflict zone. On 3 July 2019, the FI Presidency held a joint TWP- SIS/SIRENE meeting to discuss best practices in relation to the use of the Schengen Information System (SIS) in exchanging information on FTFs and battlefield information for law enforcement purposes. The importance of using SIS to its full extent to improve the tools to fight terrorism, especially concerning detection of FTFs and returnees, was firmly stressed throughout autumn 2019, including at the December 2019 JHA Council. On 10 July 2019, the EU CTC and the Commission hosted a high-level workshop where senior officials from Member States, EU agencies, USA, Interpol, the UN, etc., representing the military, judicial and border security sectors, exchanged methods to better collect, share and use battlefield information, making it available in the relevant EU databases so that the information can be accessible at our borders as well as for purposes of criminal investigation and prosecution.

Council Conclusions on preventing and combating radicalisation in prisons and dealing with terrorist and violent extremist offenders after release, were adopted on 6 June 2019¹⁰ under the RO Presidency. The conclusions include an annex with good practices in addressing radicalisation in prisons and dealing with terrorist and violent extremist offenders after release. The discussion continued under the FI Presidency, on 12 November in CATS, with a focus on identifying information exchange points between the authorities and released prisoners as well as the proliferation of radical literature in prisons. A set of Council conclusions on alternative measures to detention with a horizontal scope, but referring to the issue of radicalisation of prisoners, were adopted on 3 December 2019¹¹.

The **six-monthly terrorist threat assessments** presented by Europol and INTCEN showed little change in the overall threat picture; updating the previous recommendations. Member States agreed on reflecting on widening the scope of the INTCEN assessment and the Europol report to cover all forms of extremism constituting a terrorist threat¹². The most recent EU threat assessment in the field of terrorism was issued on 26 November 2019¹³.

The Action Plan of the Commission to support the **protection of public spaces** is under implementation¹⁴. The Commission is engaging with Member States and private stakeholders promoting the dialogue and the cooperation between the public and private sector. The Commission began an evaluation of the Council Directive 2008/114/EC of 8 December 2008 on the identification and designation of European critical infrastructures and the assessment of the need to improve their protection in August 2018. The evaluation report was published in July 2019, concluding that there seemed to be more scope for EU action to make the EU more resilient. A broad stakeholder consultation will now be conducted.

¹⁰ 9727/19
¹¹ 14546/19
¹² 9044/1/19
¹³ 14547/19
¹⁴ COM(2017) 612 final

In October 2018, EU leaders called on further strengthening deterrence and resilience against CBRN (chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear) threats and welcomed the adoption of the new regime of restrictive measures to address the threat from chemical weapons, while looking forward to early progress on the listing of relevant individuals and entities. The ad hoc detection group on CBRN has produced a list of explosives precursors (EU confidential) and a list of material that could be used for a CBRN attack (EU secret), among other things to serve as the basis for further work to reduce accessibility to these chemicals. These lists have also been harmonised between the USA and EU to ensure easy market access for manufacturers of detection equipment. To promote cross-sectoral cooperation between civil protection and law enforcement sectors, and for sharing information on best practices in this regard, the FI Presidency arranged a joint meeting of the Terrorism Working Party (TWP) and PROCIV in September. The aim of the joint discussion was to raise awareness on existing CBRN risks and to emphasise a risk-based approach to CBRN capability development.

The proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the **marketing and use of explosives precursors**¹⁵, amending Annex XVII to Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 and repealing Regulation (EU) No 98/2013 on the marketing and use of explosives precursors, was adopted on 14 June 2019. The new Regulation (EU) No 2019/1148 was published in the Official Journal on 11 July 2019. The purpose is to limit the availability of such explosives precursors to the general public and to provide for appropriate reporting of suspicious activity throughout the supply chain.

¹⁵ 8342/18 + ADD 1 + ADD 2 + ADD 3

In the area of **financing of terrorism**, Directive (EU) 2019/1153 of the European Parliament and the Council laying down rules facilitating the use of financial and other information for the prevention, detection, investigation or prosecution of certain criminal offences agreement was adopted on 20 June 2019. The Commission opened [28] infringements procedures to ensure the rules provided to prevent money laundering and terrorist financing are transposed by Member States as required in Directive (EU) 2015/849. This preventative regime was further strengthened following the adoption of Directive (EU) 2018/843, thus providing additional instruments for fighting against terrorism financing and money laundering (e.g. bank account registers, registers of beneficial ownership information for legal entities and legal arrangements, mitigating risks posed by prepaid cards and virtual currencies). On 24 July 2019, the Commission adopted an updated supranational risk assessment¹⁶ and reports to facilitate interconnection of bank account registers¹⁷, cooperation among Financial Intelligence Units¹⁸ and recent alleged money laundering cases involving EU credit institutions¹⁹. The transposition of the 5th Anti Money Laundering Directive (5AMLD) by 10 January 2020 will improve tools to fight terrorism financing.

¹⁶ Report from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council on the assessment of the risk of money laundering and terrorist financing affecting the internal market and relating to cross-border activities COM (2019) 370.

¹⁷ Report from the Commission to the European Parliament on the interconnection of national centralised automated mechanisms (central registries or central electronic data retrieval systems) of the Member States on bank accounts COM(2019) 372.

¹⁸ Report from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council assessing the framework for cooperation between Financial Intelligence Units COM(2019) 371.

¹⁹ Report from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council on the assessment of recent alleged money laundering cases involving EU credit institutions COM(2019) 373.

– Emerging threats:

The challenges and opportunities created by new and emerging technologies, such as 5G, Artificial Intelligence and UAVs (unmanned aerial vehicles), from the point of view of law enforcement in general and especially counter-terrorism were widely discussed under the FI Presidency. Tackling these threats requires high-tech expertise, demanding more efforts at national and EU level, including through public-private partnerships and research and development. At the same time, the opportunities of the new technologies for security need to be explored and mobilised. The last TWP-meeting under the Croatian Presidency will deal with modern technologies in prevention and suppression of terrorism. In autumn 2019, the Council agreed to create an Innovation Lab at Europol to monitor and drive innovation for law enforcement, including the creation of common technological solutions. The discussion on the arrangements of the Innovation Lab is on-going and continues the next months.

Internal and external security is becoming increasingly intertwined. The FI Presidency organised a joint TWP-COTER meeting in October where new and emerging trends and threats in terrorism and violent extremism were discussed based on the analysis provided by UN CTED and EU INTCEN. In addition, at the joint TWP/COTER, At the joint TWP/COTER meeting in October, a concept note elaborated by the EU CTCs office on EU-KSA (Kingdom of Saudi Arabia) consultations on "how to avoid the spread of extremist Islamist ideology in Europe" was agreed after intense discussions in COTER and MOG (Middle East/Gulf Working Party)²⁰. The topic is an example of the interlinkage of the internal/external security, "external engagement with internal impact", a means to strengthen the links is to focus on the use of internal instruments to promote EU security interests related to CT in priority third countries (e.g. Western Balkans), EEAS gave an update on the state of play for the EU CT/security experts in EU delegations. It has been a repeated wish from Member States to have more shared reports from CT-experts and more frequent appearances in both COTER and TWP with the aim of facilitating closer coordination of efforts between Member States, JHA actors and CSDP (common security and defence policy) missions and operations. At the January joint meeting, EEAS debriefed on CT/Security experts seminar on "lessons learned". As of 2020, all EU CT/security experts posts will be co-funded by the EU, The HR Presidency will continue the close cooperation between TWP and COTER by organising a joint meeting in January 2020 focusing on the Western Balkans. Another item was the cooperation with international organisations - OSCE, UN (UNODC Terrorism Prevention Branch (TPB), Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate CTED) and Information by the Presidency: possible EU/MS activities during UN CT Week at the end of June/beginning of July 2020.

²⁰ Agreed as A-item on 19 December 2019.

1.2. Preventing and fighting serious and organised crime

The implementation of **the EU Policy Cycle on organised and serious international crime/EMPACT** continued to be the main focus under this ISS priority facilitating operational cooperation between Member States, EU institutions and EU agencies as well as third countries and organisations, including the private sector where relevant.

Independent Evaluation of the EU Policy Cycle

The establishment and preparation of an Independent Evaluation of the EU Policy Cycle under the responsibility of the European Commission fell under the remit of the FI Presidency. Within this time frame, the Commission appointed the same Evaluator that was used in the previous evaluation of the Policy Cycle (11163/1/19) (10993/19) (2014-2017). The objective is that the evaluation will highlight the lessons learned from the current Policy Cycle (2018 - 2021) in order to integrate/remove certain aspects in the upcoming Policy Cycle. This independent evaluation will encompass all stages of the Cycle, including SOCTA. A new initiative under the FI Presidency was the setting up of an Advisory Group on the Independent Evaluation to which 16 Member States volunteered and where the HR NEC has been appointed as the one single point of contact.

Funding of the EU Policy Cycle

Once again delegates were unable to reach a consensus based on the first proposal for the funding of the 2020 Operational Action Plans (OAPs) (10992/19) and submitted alternative proposals. A revised proposal was provided and endorsed (10992/1/19 REV 1). The most novel aspect to this year's funding was that the horizontal priority of document fraud also received an allocated amount as opposed to previous years.

Serious and Organised Crime Threat Assessment: SOCTA

The development of a new methodology for EU SOCTA 2021(13732/19) was addressed in line with the identified customer requirements. The novel aspect of this methodology was the introduction of 'crime infrastructure'. This was also an item that had to be revised pursuant to conflicting opinions. An agreed upon version was endorsed in January 2020.

OAPs 2020

The 2020 OAPs were adopted under the FI Presidency.

Findings

The Presidency also provided a summary of the main conclusions of the NEC meeting based on the Drivers light reports that took place at the Europol Headquarters 29/30 October 2019 (13736/19) whilst Europol presented their interim findings (13733/19 + ADD 1). Additionally Europol presented its assessment of the Joint Action Days 2019 (13737/19).

The **HR Presidency** will continue the work of the FI Presidency, by means of monitoring the synergies between the EU Policy Cycle / EMPACT and the Customs Cooperation Working Group (CCWP) 10th Action Plan. Furthermore they will witness the commencement of the Independent Evaluation as well as an updated and revised reporting mechanism. The list of relevant actors will also be updated and media communication once again explored in order to pin point the most effective way of approaching this item. Furthermore the HR NEC and Europol will work together to provide an assessment of the results of the actions to measure the strategic goals. The Presidency will monitor the changes of Drivers in the Facilitation of Illegal Immigration OAP (EL taking over AT) and Criminal Finances/Money Laundering/Asset Recovery OAP (NL taking over FR).

1.3. Preventing and fighting cybercrime and enhancing cybersecurity

The FI Presidency was committed to make further progress in various files related to cyber security and preventing and fighting cybercrime. On the legislative side the Presidency worked intensively on the legislative proposal for a Regulation establishing the European Cybersecurity Industrial, Technology & Research Competence Centre and Network of National Coordination Centers, with a view to achieving as much progress as possible. Lengthy discussions have taken place on the financial provisions in order to ensure compliance with the provisions of the Horizon Europe Regulation on which a common understanding was reached earlier this year. Discussions will continue under HR Presidency to find an agreement on the text and, eventually, to relaunch the trilogue negotiations.

On the policy side, a new framework for targeted restrictive measures was adopted, and the work on coordinated attribution at EU level in the context of the cyber diplomacy toolbox, to better deter and respond to cyber-attacks continued.

The progress on the **WHOIS database reform** to ensure compliance with data protection rules while ensuring access to WHOIS domain name registration data for legitimate users was closely monitored. Following phase I of the policy development process the ICANN Board adopted on 15 May 2019 a set of recommendations to be implemented by ICANN and the contracted parties, mainly regarding the collection of domain name registration data. On 22 May 2019, the policy development process entered phase 2, where access to non-public WHOIS data and the model for authorising access should be discussed. The draft report is expected early 2020 with the possible implementation to take place subsequently in 2021 and beyond. The EU Law Enforcement Emergency Response Protocol (LE ERP) for Major Cross-Border Cyber Attacks endorsed by COSI in December 2018 will be tested during an exercise planned by Europol to take place under the FI Presidency. Cyber-crime continued to be a priority in the EU Policy Cycle/EMPACT for which the efforts can be seen in the context of several OAPs (firearms, CSE, drugs, etc.) contributing significantly to European law enforcement capacities and to build deterrence through targeted disruptive joint operations. EC3 have developed a Dark Web team for support and coordination and assistance in the cyber patrol actions weeks. Overall great operational results were achieved through the training organised in EMPACT (Cyber patrolling), highlighting the horizontal aspect of Cyber for other EU crime priorities. Europol also hosted the sixth instalment of its Victim Identification Task Force meeting in May, where experts from 24 countries collaborated to increase the chances for victims to be identified and safeguarded. In March, Europol supported the first Victim Identification Task Force meeting at Member State level in Italy.

2. Cross-cutting priority areas²¹

- **Information exchange and interoperability**

The RO and FI Presidencies worked intensively in order to enhance **information exchange and ensure interoperability between EU information systems**.

Negotiations with the European Parliament on the two proposals establishing a framework for Interoperability between EU information systems started at the end of October 2018 under the AT Presidency and were concluded in February 2019 under the RO Presidency. Both Regulations²² entered into force on 11 June 2019. The Commission tabled two proposals (5071/19 and 5072/19) on 8 January 2019 to include further consequential amendments that are necessary to establish the interoperability of other EU information systems with ETIAS. A mandate for negotiations with the EP was reached in May 2019 under the RO Presidency. Negotiations will start with the EP as soon as it is ready, most probably in March, once the EP has completed its internal impact assessment. The HR Presidency aims to reach a political agreement on this file by June 2020.

In June 2018, the Council and the European Parliament reached political agreement on **the new SIS legal framework**. The formal adoption which took place in November 2018 is followed by an ambitious three years transposition period for full implementation of all the changes both at Union and Member States level.

²¹ Measures with horizontal implications for internal security and relevant for the fight of various forms of crime.

²² Regulation (EU) 2019/817 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 May 2019 on establishing a framework for interoperability between EU information systems in the field of borders and visa and amending Regulations (EC) No 767/2008, (EU) 2016/399, (EU) 2017/2226, (EU) 2018/1240, (EU) 2018/1726 and (EU) 2018/1861 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Council Decisions 2004/512/EC and 2008/633/JHA (OJ L 135, 22.5.2019, p. 27).

Regulation (EU) 2019/818 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 May 2019 on establishing a framework for interoperability between EU information systems in the field of police and judicial cooperation, asylum and migration and amending Regulations (EU) 2018/1726, (EU) 2018/1862 and (EU) 2019/816 (OJ L 135, 22.5.2019, p. 85).

In May 2018, the Commission presented a proposal to amend the **Visa Information System** (8853/18). The draft regulation chiefly relates to further reinforcing the security and integrity of the short-stay visa procedure as well as to registering long-stay visas and residence permits in the VIS. The proposal also contains important provisions to ensure interoperability between the VIS and all relevant EU systems and databases in the area of justice and home affairs. The AT Presidency obtained a negotiating mandate at Coreper on 19 December 2018. The EP voted on 13 March 2019 on its opinion. However, the EP negotiating team already decided in January 2019 not to recommend entering into Interinstitutional negotiations with the Council on this file due to the lack of time. The RO Presidency nevertheless launched a discussion on the examination of the EP mandate. Trilogues on this file started under the FI Presidency and will continue under the HR Presidency with a view to reaching a political agreement on this file in the first half of 2020.

Further to substantially contributing to the debate on amending the Prüm Decisions, the DAPIX (IXIM) working group under the AT Presidency had decided to set up "focus groups" in which national experts discuss issues related to biometric and vehicle registration data. Their work began under the RO Presidency and final reports were presented to the working party in November . They were intended to complement to the feasibility study commissioned in autumn 2018 by the European Commission to an external consulting firm in order to assess the feasibility of improving data exchange under the Prüm Framework, and the three workshops of the future of Prüm organised by the Commission. In this context, the RO Presidency triggered a debate on the future of the Information Management Strategy (IMS) and particularly on the strategic dimension of cross-border automated data exchange procedures regarding de-centralised data exchange systems.

On 17 April 2019, two instruments were adopted regarding the European Criminal Records Information System (ECRIS): Regulation (EU) 2019/816 establishing a centralised system for the identification of Member States holding conviction information on third-country nationals and stateless persons (ECRIS-TCN)²³ and Directive (EU) 2019/884 amending Council Framework Decision 2009/315/JHA, as regards the exchange of information on third-country nationals and as regards ECRIS²⁴. While the Regulation regulates all issues on the establishment, by the Commission and eu-LISA, of a central database holding identity information of convicted third-country nationals and stateless persons, the Directive complements the existing Framework Decision 2009/315/JHA on matters of general nature related to the functioning of ECRIS.

²³ OJ L 135, 22.5.2019, p. 1.

²⁴ OJ L 151, 7.6.2019, p. 143.

The implementation of these new EU information systems and of the technical interoperability components by eu-LISA is ongoing and requires, among others, the adoption of a high number of implementing acts and delegated acts.

- **Availability of data**

The work during the FI Presidency continued on the three main aspects related to ensuring availability of data, namely data retention, cross-border access to electronic evidence and encryption. With regard to data retention the FI Presidency monitored the progress achieved by the Commission in the implementation of the June 2019 Council Conclusions. In the report provided to the Council in December 2019 the Commission explained that the stakeholders consultations were ongoing and that the comprehensive study has been launched with results expected in the Q2 2020.

The FI Presidency also followed the legislative developments in the area of data retention in the Member States (SE adopted a new law) and the progress of the pending requests for preliminary rulings before ECJ where decisions by the Court are expected in 2020. On cross-border access to e-evidence the work is progressing primarily on the external side where following the mandates provided to the Commission in June 2019, the latter is actively participating in the negotiations on the 2nd additional protocol to the Budapest Convention within the Council of Europe and is negotiating an agreement with the US on that matter. On encryption, no progress has been made since the last discussions held with the JHA Counsellors and in CATS at the end of 2018 on the possible approaches to facilitate the work of LEA when confronted with end-to-end encryption. The Commission is awaited to take a decision on the solution to be implemented together with a respective funding.

- **Strengthening the links between external and internal dimension of security**

EU internal security and external security are mutually dependent and interlinked. The renewed Internal Security Agenda focuses on engagement with key third countries on addressing the external dimension of EU internal security. Priority dialogues are pursued in combatting smuggling and transnational organised crime (including drugs, firearms and trafficking in human beings), counter-terrorism, radicalisation, police co-operation and information/intelligence sharing, and cybercrime.

Beyond bilateral relations, a strong multilateral framework remains essential - to build understanding of the nature of the challenges and establish cooperative mechanisms across continents. The United Nations and its agencies, such as the UN Office of Counter-Terrorism, play a leading role in strengthening international cooperation. We are a firm believer that the role of the United Nations in this regard is indispensable.

On 19 November 2018, the Council and the member states adopted conclusions on the establishment of a civilian Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) compact. These conclusions set the strategic guidelines for the strengthening of civilian CSDP and contain 22 political commitments by the Council and the member states. The aim is to strengthen the EU's capacity to deploy civilian crisis management missions. The objectives of these missions are to reinforce the police, the rule of law and the civil administration in fragile and conflict settings. Commitments 20 and 21 of the Compact call for closer CSDP-JHA cooperation and to ensure operational output of such CSDP-JHA cooperation by considering, where appropriate, new lines of operations or pilot projects in new or ongoing CSDP missions, also building on targeted mini-concepts. On 23 November 2018, COSI and PSC took note of the Civilian CSDP Compact given its wider relevance to both internal and external security actors. The importance of MS' support for the initiative, including the National Implementation Plans, and the involvement of JHA actors was highlighted.

On the 12.06.19 CIVCOM and COSI Support Group had a joint meeting where the EEAS presented a discussion paper to both preparatory bodies in order to introduce the initiative of mini-concepts as a means to map the possible scope of civilian CDSP efforts in a specific field. The paper explored the priority areas for civilian CDSP as well as the enhanced opportunities for CDSP and JHA cooperation. The mini concepts should remain a living document by the EEAS with input from different services and agencies and put forward for discussion with Member States (CIVCOM - COSI SG).

EEAS further developed the mini concept initiative as a contribution of civilian CDSP to tackle organised crime (9845/19). The mini-concepts propose options for further cooperation, of mutual added value and on a reciprocal basis, broadly summarised along the lines of (1) increased information sharing, (2) enhanced cooperation from the planning stages onwards, (3) improved cooperation on the ground, (4) joint training or coordination of training efforts and (5) delineation of roles and tasks. Additionally, cooperation can be strengthened with national (MS) law enforcement and judiciary actors and more discussions with Member States on how to ensure a more direct link would be beneficial.

As a platform, CDSP Missions could engage, within their current mandates, in further supporting the implementation of the UN Convention against Transnational Organised Crime. Being a major step forward in the fight against transnational organised crime and the recognition by the international community of the seriousness of the problems posed by it, this instrument provides a relevant framework for assistance to host states.

The two models proposed for further development are

1) A Crime Analysis support Unit (CASU) and Organised Crime Coordination Platform (OCCP) with the aim of developing the capacities of competent Nigerien security institutions and services in collecting, assessing, analysing, circulating and exploiting information related to organised crime. This would involve providing the authorities with regular overviews that will permit a more effective decision-making processes, adaptation of organisational structures, implementation of planning procedures and efficient conduct of operations. To this end, EUCAP Sahel Niger will establish specific capacities within its organisation and invite Europol and/or EBCGA/Frontex to consider participation.

2) The OCCP in Niger which would be based on the existing Platform for Exchange of Information on Migration with the purpose of sharing information related to organised crime and the security challenges resulting from irregular migration. This enhancement to the current platform would require close consultation with all the JHA/LEAs actors operating in Niger to avoid duplications as well as, of course, with the Nigerien authorities. Building upon the existing Platform of Exchange of Information on Migration the OCCP could become an overarching body responsible for sharing information on all aspects of organised crime (including counter-terrorism if appropriate), but without hierarchical functions in order not to inhibit the various European partners already active in the field (the JIT or the EBCGA/Frontex Risk Analysis Cell). Since the current platform for exchange of information on migration is chaired by the Nigerien authorities (DGPN), a request to expand the platform to the OCCP would need to be made to the local authorities; this might be done formally by either the EUDEL in Niamey or the HoM EUCAP Sahel Niger through the Civilian Operations Commander. Other participants would of course also need to be consulted, including EU MS and members of the JIT.

The establishment of the Crime Information Cell (CIC) within EUNAVFOR MED Operation Sophia²⁵ brought tangible progress in enhancing operational cooperation between the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) and Justice and Home Affairs (JHA) actors.

A joint report by EUNAVFOR MED Operation Sophia, Europol and FRONTEX on the final results of the pilot project was presented at the COSI/PSC meeting in November (14312/18). Overall the pilot was judged to be a step forward, benefiting all parties and improving mutual awareness of the respective roles and responsibilities of the actors involved with MSs supporting the continuation of the project, subject to a formal decision by PSC.

On 26 September 2019 the Council extended the mandate of EUNAVFOR MED Operation Sophia by six months, until 31 March 2020.

The deployment of the Operation's naval assets will remain temporarily suspended, as EU member states continue to work in the appropriate fora on a solution on disembarkation as part of the follow-up to the June 2018 European Council conclusions. The Operation will continue to implement its mandate accordingly.

²⁵ 7708/18

- The HR Presidency will monitor this process and COSI/PSC will discuss the nexus between internal and external security in the joint meeting on 21 February 2020.

- **Cooperation with third countries**

Strengthening the cooperation with the Western Balkans was among the main priorities of the FI Presidency. In the margins of the Ministerial conference on Security and Migration, Promoting Partnership and Resilience, held in Vienna on 13 and 14 September 2018, a milestone memorandum of understanding on the automated exchange of DNA, dactyloscopic and vehicle registration data was signed with the WB partners. This Prüm-like agreement between the contracting parties of the Convention aims to increase information exchange and to step up cross-border cooperation in combating terrorism and cross-border crime. During the RO and FI Presidency, discussions with the Commission on legal issues of this agreement and related infringements took place. The Commission continues to support the Member States in finding the constructive solution. A **Joint Action Plan on counter terrorism for the Western Balkans**²⁶ (the “Joint Action Plan”) was signed at the EU-Western Balkan JHA Ministerial meeting of 5 October 2018, further to the adoption of the Western Balkans strategy by the Commission on 6 February 2018 setting up the framework for developing further cooperation with the region. In order to implement tailor-made priority actions of the Joint Action Plan with each Western Balkans partner, the Commission elaborated (non-binding) CT Arrangements for the implementation of the Joint Action Plan between the Commission and the authorities of each Western Balkans partner. The implementations arrangements have been initialed and the HR Presidency will monitor their implementation at TWP and COTER.

The Western Balkans continued to be included in **operational activities under the EU Policy Cycle**, thus enhancing the security of the region by improving the information exchange in combating serious and organised crime and terrorism.

Furthermore, the Pilot Project for the deployment of Europol Liaison Officers (LOs) to Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia is ongoing. The first LO was deployed to Albania, on 6 June 2019. The deployment in Serbia is expected during the HR Presidency. The deployment in BiH will require the prior definition of the hosting authorities of a National Contact Point in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

²⁶ 11848/1/18 REV 1

On 4 June 2018, the JHA Council adopted eight Decisions²⁷ authorising the Commission to open negotiations for agreements between the EU and **Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Tunisia and Turkey respectively on the exchange of personal data between Europol and those countries'** competent authorities for fighting serious crime and terrorism. The Commission is in charge of conducting the negotiations and is providing regular updates on the advancements of the negotiations.

In 2019, an EU global facility on money laundering and terrorism financing was introduced in order to provide support to partner countries to put in place effective frameworks on anti-money laundering and countering terrorist financing. This support will complement efforts made by the Commission to identify high risk third countries in accordance with the Anti-Money Laundering Directive.

- **Enhancing customs contribution to internal security**

On 15 May 2018 COSI expressed support for introducing a more structured approach for enhancing customs contribution to internal security²⁸. The measures are grouped into three categories; institutional cooperation, operational cooperation, and the exchange of information and interoperability. To develop these work strands, the AT Presidency initiated a series of thematic discussions at the CCWP. The discussions covered customs cooperation with Europol, Frontex, CEPOL and LEWP. An interim report (13250/18) was approved at the CCWP Plenary meeting on the 26 October. It was presented to COSI on 23 November. The Committee welcomed the report from the Presidency and praised the fruitful discussions, agreeing to remain seized on the subject to further involve Customs in the EU Policy Cycle for organised and serious international crime, Europol and other JHA instruments and agencies.

The work continued during the RO Presidency with the focus on the information exchange. RO PRES launched in CCWP questionnaire on the use of SIS/VIS by customs. The results were presented at the CCWP meeting on 16 September 2019. In general, SIS is considered very useful for customs activities whereas VIS is hardly used.

²⁷ 9320/18 + ADD 1; 9330/18 + ADD 1; 9331/18 + ADD 1; 9332/18 + ADD 1; 9333/18 + ADD 1; 9334/18 + ADD 1; 9339/18 + ADD 1; 9342/18 + ADD 1

²⁸ 7705/2/18 REV 2

The Commission presented the outcome of the practitioners' work on the interoperability between security and border management systems and customs systems at the CCWP meeting on 12 December 2018 and subsequently at COSI on 21 February 2019. The feasibility study on possible interoperability between the future Cargo Information System (ICS2) and SIS and Europol databases was launched in 2019.

On 19 November 2019, a discussion paper²⁹ on "enhancing customs contribution to internal security: follow-up to the 2019 EPCC" was presented to COSI who took stock of the extensive work done to enhance customs contribution to internal security and discussed possible ways forward to further strengthen such cooperation which is seen as crucial in the fight against organised crime. Delegations stressed the positive cooperation of customs with the EU POLICY CYCLE/EMPACT and encouraged deeper synergies with the Customs Action Plan. A roadmap was presented in CCWP on 26 November on customs integration in SOCTA. Some delegations also showed support to integrate customs in interoperability and encouraged better cooperation with JHA agencies.

3. Future Direction of internal security in the EU

In June 2019 the Council held a policy debate relating to the 'Future of the EU Policing' (9027/19) as part of the collective reflection on the future direction of internal security.

The subsequent discussions were launched in July 2019, at the informal meeting of the Standing Committee on Operational Cooperation on Internal Security (COSI), in preparation for the informal Justice and Home Affairs Council (JHA Council), by raising a number of key horizontal topics. Thematic discussions also took place in the relevant working parties, such as the Law Enforcement Working Party (LEWP), the Terrorism Working Party (TWP) and the Working Party on Information Exchange (DAPIX IE) (IXIM), and were further prepared at COSI for the ministerial debate. A number of topics were addressed in detail, e.g. enhancing the operational cooperation framework for law enforcement, impact of new technologies and hybrid threats on internal security, role of the EU JHA agencies, information management and automation, and training for LEA.

The outcomes of these discussions were summarised in a Presidency Report that was brought to the Council in December 2019 14297/19.

²⁹ 13975/19

Follow-up on specific measures

1. Renewed ISS priorities	
<i>1.1. Countering terrorism and preventing radicalisation and violent extremism</i>	
1.	Prevention of radicalisation, including developments under HLCEG-R, RAN, Internet forum Responsible WP ³⁰ : TWP
<i>Main documents</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU response to terrorism - state of play and way forward of 28 February 2019 (6684/1/19 REV 1) • Council Conclusions on preventing and combating radicalisation in prisons and on dealing with terrorist and violent extremist offenders after release of 6 June 2019 (9727/19) Final report of the High Level Commission Expert Group on Radicalisation (HLCEG-R) of 18 May 2018 (8951/18) • Commission Recommendation on measures to effectively tackle illegal content online C(2018) 1177 final • Council Recommendation of 22 May 2018 on promoting common values, inclusive education, and the European dimension of teaching (9010/18) • Commission Progress Reports (1- 20) towards an effective and genuine Security Union • Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on preventing the dissemination of terrorist content online - general approach 15336/18 	
<i>State of play/progress made</i> Regular updates at TWP on the work of the EU Internet Forum. Regular updates at TWP on the work of the RAN. General approach on the proposed Regulation on tackling preventing the dissemination of terrorist content online, was reached in December 2018. Trilogues ongoing with the new EP.	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i> Work towards a political agreement with the EP on the draft Regulation on addressing the dissemination of terrorist content online will continue.

³⁰ The responsible WP(s) on the substance of the respective file are indicated, while COSI, CATS or SCIFA provide an overview and strategic guidance on a number of the files. The latter activities could be indicated in the state of play/follow-up section, as relevant.

2.	FTFs/Returnees, including the judicial dimension Responsible WP: TWP, DROIPEN	
	<i>Main documents</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Directive (EU) 2017/541 on combating terrorism and replacing Council Framework Decision 2002/475/JHA and amending Council Decision 2005/671/JHA was adopted on 15 March 2017. The transposition period expired on 8 September 2018 • Council decisions on the conclusion on behalf of the European Union, of the CoE Convention on the prevention of terrorism³¹ and its Additional Protocol³² • RAN Manual – Responses to returnees: Foreign terrorist fighters and their families, July 2017 	
	<i>State of play/progress made</i> <p>The Union acceded to the CoE Convention on the Prevention of Terrorism and its Additional Protocol on 26 June 2018. DG HOME sent a letter to MS to encourage a swift progress in implementing measures to manage the threat of returning Foreign Terrorist Fighters, following the recent developments in Northern Syria. Adoption of an EU Crisis Response Protocol for terrorist attacks with a significant online component at EU Internet Forum in October 2019.</p>	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i> <p>The Commission shall, by 8 March 2020, submit a report to the European Parliament and to the Council, assessing the extent to which the Member States have taken the necessary measures to comply with Directive 2017/541. MS were invited to inform the Commission by 16 December 2019 of the actions taken.</p>

³¹ OJ L 159, 22.6.2018, p. 1–2

³² OJ L 159, 22.6.2018, p. 15–16

3.	Roadmap on Information exchange (Chapter III) • Post-hit follow-up under Article 36 SIS II Responsible WP: TWP, SIS/SIRENE	
	<i>Main documents</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Conclusions on strengthening the cooperation and the use of the Schengen Information System (SIS) to deal with persons involved in terrorism or terrorism-related activities, including foreign terrorist fighters (4 June 2018) (9691/18) 	
	<i>State of play/progress made</i> Council Conclusions were adopted on 4 June 2018. They address Member States, the Commission, Europol, Frontex and Cefpol.	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i> During a joint meeting of the SIS-SIRENE and Terrorism Working Parties held on 3 July 2019, the issue of stepping up the use of SIS in countering terrorism was brought back to the agenda focusing not only on FTFs but also issues such as using information received from trusted third countries, including battlefield information. These two topics have been discussed at several occasions during the Romanian Presidency (COSI, TWP, SIS-SIRENE).
4.	Enhance security of explosives and explosive precursors Responsible WP: TWP, WP on Technical harmonisation	
	<i>Main documents</i> Regulation (EU) 2019/1148 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the marketing and use of explosives precursors.	
	<i>State of play/progress made</i> Regulation adopted and published in the Official Journal	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i> Regulation shall apply from 1 February 2021. Work towards implementation of new regulation

5.	CBRN communication and Action Plan implementation Responsible WP: TWP	
	<p><i>Main documents</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council conclusions of 7 December 2017 on strengthening the European Union response to CBRN related risks, reducing access to explosive precursors and protecting public spaces (15648/17) • Action Plan to enhance preparedness against chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear security risks COM(2017) 610 final • The Commission together with public authorities and private operators of public spaces in the so Operators' Forum, have identified good practices for several measures that all operators and public authorities involved in the protection of public spaces can implement to strengthen security. (Commission SWD(2019) 140 (20.3.2019) • Seventeenth Progress Report towards an effective and genuine Security Union, 15686/18 • Joint Communication on Increasing resilience and bolstering capabilities to address hybrid threats, JOIN(2018) 16 final, 13.6.2018 • Restrictive measures against the proliferation and use of chemical weapons, 11938/18 	
	<p><i>State of play/progress made</i></p> <p>Regular debriefs in TWP by COM as well as presentations from MSs.</p> <p>Adoption of a new EU regime of restrictive measures to address the use and proliferation of chemical weapons.</p> <p>Joint TWP-PROCIV meeting on 12 September 2019 on Cross-sectoral cooperation in responding to CBRN threats.</p>	<p><i>Envisaged follow-up</i></p> <p>The Commission is expected to review the progress at the latest after two years of the adoption of the Action Plan.</p>

6.	Threat assessment Responsible WP: TWP	
	<i>Main documents</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU threat assessment in the field of CT, endorsed by COSI in November 2019 (14547/19) 	
	<i>State of play/progress made</i> EU threat assessment in the field of CT was endorsed by COSI under the RO Presidency. COSI policy recommendations were adopted in November 2019.	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i> Threat assessment to be reviewed by Spring 2019.

7.	Atlas Network Responsible WP: LEWP	
	<i>Main documents</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informally established in 2001 and formalized by the Council Decision 2008/617/JHA • Council Conclusions on the strengthening of the ATLAS Network - Council conclusions (7 December 2017) - 15627/17 	
	<i>State of play/progress made</i> Based on the above Council Conclusions, a permanent ATLAS support office was created under the auspices of Europol. The official signing ceremony took place at Europol, during the ATLAS <i>Common Challenge Conference, 10th October 2018</i> . Further enhancements were discussed in the LEWP on the basis of the Council Conclusions (pooling of expensive equipment, training centres of excellence etc.) during the AT Presidency. Following the replies received by AT, it was decided that ATLAS should examine, from a practical point of view, the questions of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • pooling and sharing of specialised equipment and specific capabilities and • setting-up of common training facilities, acting as centers of excellence. The findings by ATLAS on the above issues have been transmitted to the RO Presidency in June 2019 and were discussed at the first LEWP meeting under the FI Presidency on 11 July 2019 (10498/19). The majority of the Member States deemed the existing range of legal possibilities in cross-border cooperation available to the Special Intervention Units related to the ATLAS Network sufficient or nearly sufficient.	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i> COSI will continue monitoring future developments of the ATLAS network.

8.	Protecting public spaces Responsible WP: TWP	
	<p><i>Main documents</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action Plan to support the protection of public spaces was presented by COM on 18 October 2017 (13489/17) • Council conclusions on strengthening the European Union response to CBRN related risks, reducing access to explosive precursors and protecting public spaces (7 December 2017) - 15648/17 • The Commission together with public authorities and private operators of public spaces in the so Operators' Forum, have identified good practices for several measures that all operators and public authorities involved in the protection of public spaces can implement to strengthen security. (Commission SWD(2019) 140 (20.3.2019)) 	
	<p><i>State of play/progress made</i></p> <p>Regular reports from the Commission in the framework of TWP, on 16 January 2019 and on 16 April.</p>	<p><i>Envisaged follow-up</i></p> <p>Continuous</p>

9.	WBCTi initiative Responsible WP: TWP	
	<i>Main documents</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU Western Balkan counter-terrorism initiative: integrative plan of action (4 December 2015) - 13887/15 • Joint Action Plan on Counter-Terrorism for the Western Balkans signed by the Commission on behalf of the EU and by Western Balkans partners at the JHA Ministerial meeting in Tirana on 5 October 2018. • Council Conclusions on strengthening the EU internal security's external dimension in the Western Balkans including via the Integrative Internal Security Governance (IISG) - (8 December 2016) (15413/16) • Western Balkan Counter-Terrorism Initiative (WBCTi) iPA 2015-2017 Final Report • Final Draft WBCTi iPA 2018-2020 • Recommendations of the IISG Board of 26 February for the revision of the Terms of Reference of the IISG. 	
	<i>State of play/progress made</i> Implementation Arrangements of the Joint Action Plan on Counter-Terrorism for the Western Balkans have been signed by the Commission and by Western Balkans partners	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i> Monitor the implementation of the Arrangements of the Joint Action Plan on Counter-Terrorism.

10.	Battlefield evidence Responsible WP: TWP, CATS, COSI	
	<i>Main documents</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening military and law enforcement information exchange in counter-terrorism (6336/19 + ADD 1+ADD 2) • Eurojust memorandum on battlefield evidence (WK 12876/2018) 	
	<i>State of play/progress made</i> COSI and PSC discussed in February 2019 the importance of ensuring that information collected by forces on the battlefields of Syria and Iraq relating to terrorist fighters is handled in a manner admissible to courts in Europe and allowing its use in the context of border checks. A short information was presented during TWP meeting in April 2019, when SIS delegates were invited to participate. The COM-CTC workshop organised on 10 th July brought together senior officials from the military, judicial and border security fields from EU MS, Europol, Interpol, EBCGA, USA, UN. They discussed ways to enhance the collection, use and sharing of battlefield information to better identify, detect and prosecute FTF.	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i> Continuous. Recurrent topic discussed with the US, Interpol, Europol, Eurojust and NATO.

11.	Implementation of the Action Plan for strengthening the fight against terrorist financing Responsible WP: TWP, Financial Counsellors	
	<i>Main documents</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action Plan for strengthening the fight against terrorist financing (5782/16+ADD 1+ADD 2) • State of play of implementing the action plan for strengthening the fight against terrorist financing (WK 6622/2017) • Regulation 2019/880 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 April 2019 on the introduction and the import of cultural goods - • Report from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council on the joint review of the implementation of the Agreement between the European Union and the United States of America on the processing and transfer of Financial Messaging Data from the European Union to the United States for the purposes of the Terrorist Finance Tracking Program, COM(2019) 342 final • Regulation (EU) 2018/1672 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on controls on cash entering or leaving the Union • Directive 2019/1153 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down rules facilitating the use of financial and other information for the prevention, detection, investigation or prosecution of certain criminal offences • 5AMLD: Directive (EU) 2018/843 of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive (EU) 2015/849 on the prevention of the use of the financial system for the purposes of money laundering or terrorist financing. 	
	<i>State of play/progress made</i> EU legislation has been adopted.	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i> Implementation of the new pieces of legislation.

1.2. Preventing and fighting serious and organised crime			
11 A	EU Policy Cycle for organised and serious international crime/EMPACT Responsible WP: COSI		
	<p><i>Main documents</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Conclusions on the continuation of the EU Policy Cycle for organised and serious international crime for the period 2018-2021 - Council conclusions (27 March 2017) (7704/17) • Council conclusions on setting the EU's priorities for the fight against organised and serious international crime between 2018 and 2021 (18 May 2017) (9450/17) 		
	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p><i>State of play/progress made</i></p> <p>With reference to the EU Policy Cycle - An Independent Evaluation Group was set up and an Evaluator was tasked. An Advisory Group was also set up in order to assist the evaluation with the HR NEC appointed at the SPOC. 15 MSs volunteered to join the group. (11163/19, 1163/1/19 REV 1 & 10993/19). Funding for the 2020 OAPs were discussed and revised. Document Fraud received allocated funding for the first time as a priority (10992/19 & 10992/1/19 REV 1). Interim findings on the implementation of OAPs (13733/19 & ADD1) were presented as an item of importance as well as the conclusions of the NEC meeting (13736/19) and the evaluation of the JADs 2019 (13737/19). The EU SOCTA Methodology was updated and pursuant to discussions revised (13732/19 & 13732/1/19). The 2020 OAPs were adopted under the FI Presidency with the call for a new reporting mechanism which will come into play in September 2020.</p> </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p><i>Envisaged follow-up</i></p> <p>-</p> <p>Areas that will be addressed under the HR Presidency include, an updated and revised reporting mechanism. The list of relevant actors will also be updated and media communication explored. Furthermore the HR NEC and Europol will work together to provide an assessment of the results of the actions to measure the strategic goals.</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p><i>State of play/progress made</i></p> <p>With reference to the EU Policy Cycle - An Independent Evaluation Group was set up and an Evaluator was tasked. An Advisory Group was also set up in order to assist the evaluation with the HR NEC appointed at the SPOC. 15 MSs volunteered to join the group. (11163/19, 1163/1/19 REV 1 & 10993/19). Funding for the 2020 OAPs were discussed and revised. Document Fraud received allocated funding for the first time as a priority (10992/19 & 10992/1/19 REV 1). Interim findings on the implementation of OAPs (13733/19 & ADD1) were presented as an item of importance as well as the conclusions of the NEC meeting (13736/19) and the evaluation of the JADs 2019 (13737/19). The EU SOCTA Methodology was updated and pursuant to discussions revised (13732/19 & 13732/1/19). The 2020 OAPs were adopted under the FI Presidency with the call for a new reporting mechanism which will come into play in September 2020.</p>	<p><i>Envisaged follow-up</i></p> <p>-</p> <p>Areas that will be addressed under the HR Presidency include, an updated and revised reporting mechanism. The list of relevant actors will also be updated and media communication explored. Furthermore the HR NEC and Europol will work together to provide an assessment of the results of the actions to measure the strategic goals.</p>
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11. B	Domestic burglary Responsible WP: COSI	
	<i>Main documents</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council Conclusions on organised domestic burglary - Council conclusions (13 October 2016) (13268/16) 	
	<i>State of play/progress made</i> At the COSI meeting on 26 June 2018, DE presented a progress report (10260/18) which was prepared in close cooperation with BE, FR, SE and Europol regarding the follow-up to the Council conclusions on organised domestic burglary (13268/16).	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i> Monitor the implementation of the Council conclusions.
12 A	Drugs - EU Policy Responsible WP: Horizontal Working Party on Drugs (HDG)	
	<i>Main documents</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EU Drugs Strategy 2013-2020, implemented through two EU Action Plans that cover the periods 2013-2016 and 2017-2020 (adopted on 20 June 2017), respectively. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actions cover the two policy areas of the Strategy: Drug Demand Reduction and Drug Supply Reduction; and the three cross-cutting themes of the Strategy: Coordination, International Cooperation; and Information, Research, Monitoring and Evaluation. Policy Cycle MASP (14027/17, 13739/17) and OAP 2020 (11688/19 RESTREINT UE, 11687/19 RESTREINT UE). Council Conclusions on Alternative Development: "Towards a new Understanding of Alternative Development and Related Development centered Drug Policy Interventions - Contributing to the Implementation of UNGASS 2016 and the UN Sustainable Development Goals" (14338/18) Council Conclusions on Alternatives to coercive sanctions as a response to drug law and drug-related offences (6931/18) 	
	<i>State of play/progress made</i> End 2019 - beginning of 2020, external evaluation of the current EU Drugs Strategy. Publication in November 2019 of the EU Drug Markets Report presented by the EMCDDA and Europol.	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i> Based on the outcomes of the external evaluation, the Commission will make a proposal for a new EU Drugs Strategy, which will be submitted to the Council.

12 B	<p>Drugs - EU and the UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) - global policy on drugs</p> <p>Responsible WP: Horizontal Working Party on Drugs (HDG)</p> <p><i>Main documents</i></p> <p>Outcome Document of the 2016 UNGA Special Session on the world drug problem (NY, April 2016)</p> <p>Ministerial Declaration on strengthening our actions at the national, regional and international levels to accelerate the implementation of our joint commitments to address and counter the world drug problem (adopted by the UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs, Vienna, March 2019)</p>	
	<p><i>State of play/progress made</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU and its MS continue to implement the 2016 UNGASS Outcome Document, as confirmed by the 2019 Ministerial Declaration. In accordance with the Multiyear Work plan adopted by the CND in June 2019, CND intersessional meetings in the autumn 2019 focused on addressing the following aspects of this implementation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - expansion and diversification of the range of drugs and drugs markets - abuse, illicit cultivation and production/manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, and illicit trafficking of these substances and of precursors; illicit demand for and domestic diversion of precursors chemicals - scientific, legal and regulatory challenges posed by synthetic opioids and the non-medical use of prescription drugs. • Benefitting from coordination support by the RO and the FI Presidencies, EUMS have participated in the strengthening and streamlining of the Annual Report Questionnaire (ARQ - process partly funded by the European Commission), which is key to the global collection of data on drugs, enabling the development of an evidence-based policy on drugs. Formats of this work: expert groups meetings, pilot exercises, and intersessional meetings of the CND. 	<p><i>Envisaged follow-up</i></p> <p>Continue to implement the 2016 UNGASS Outcome Document as confirmed by the March 2019 Ministerial Declaration, in accordance with the CND multiyear work plan on this implementation: intersessional meetings planned in the autumn 2020 and until 2023.</p> <p>Adoption of the new Annual Report Questionnaire at the regular CND Session in March 2020.</p>

12 C	Drugs - International cooperation Responsible WP: Horizontal Working Party on Drugs (HDG)	
	<p><i>Main documents</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU-Central Asia Action Plan on Drugs (2014-2020) (18020/13) and EU Strategy on Central Asia adopted on 17 June 2019 • Joint Declaration on enhancing cooperation on drugs and renewing the commitments of the EU-Western Balkans Action Plan on Drugs (2009-2013) (5390/14) • EU-CELAC Action Plan of June 2015 (Chapter 6), Joint Communication to the European Parliament and the Council European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean: joining forces for a common future (16 April 2019) and Political declarations of the EU-CELAC Coordination and Cooperation Mechanism on Drugs (most recent one - Paramaribo Declaration, Outcome Document, June 2019 10363/19) • Joint Statement of the EU-China Summit (Beijing, 16-17 July 2018), point 25: agreement to launch a new EU-China Dialogue on Drugs. Confirmation of the objectives, scope and modalities by Coreper (13415/19) 	
	<p><i>State of play/progress made</i></p> <p>Under the FI Presidency, the following meetings took place in the area of drugs, including on drug supply reduction EU-Eastern Partnership countries Dialogue (9.7.2019), EU-US Dialogue 11.11.2019), EU-CELAC Technical Committee Meeting (7.11.2019) and EU-Russia Expert Meeting on Drugs (4.12.2019)</p> <p>In November 2019, Coreper confirmed the objectives, scope and modalities of the launch of a new EU-China Dialogue on Drugs.</p> <p>In December 2019, agreement in HDG on the launch of a new EU-Iran Dialogue on Drugs.</p>	<p><i>Envisaged follow-up</i></p> <p>Under the HR Presidency, the following meetings are planned in the area of drugs, including on drug supply reduction: EU-CELAC Technical Committee Meetings (22.1.2020 and 20.2.2020), XXII High Level Meeting of the EU-CELAC Coordination and Cooperation Mechanism on Drugs (Zagreb, 2-3 April 2020), EU-Western Balkans Expert Meeting on Drugs (23.4.2020), EU-US Dialogue on Drugs (27 May 2020).</p> <p>The first meeting of the new EU-China Dialogue on Drugs will take place in Brussels on 18 February 2020.</p> <p>Taking into account the context, Council will be invited to decide on the launch of a new EU-Iran Dialogue on Drugs, on the basis of the objectives, scope and modalities proposed by HDG.</p>

12 D	Drugs - EU banning of New Psychoactive Substances (NPS) Responsible WP: Horizontal Working Party on Drugs (HDG)	
	<p><i>Main documents</i> Legislative package, entered into application in November 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulation (EU) 2017/2101 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 November 2017 amending Regulation (EC) No 1920/2006 as regards information exchange on, and an early warning system and risk assessment procedure for, new psychoactive substances • Directive (EU) 2017/2103 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 November 2017 amending Council Framework Decision 2004/757/JHA in order to include new psychoactive substances in the definition of ‘drug’ and repealing Council Decision 2005/387/JHA 	
	<p><i>State of play/progress made</i></p> <p>Commission Delegated Directive (EU) 2019/369 of 13 December 2018 amending the Annex to Council Framework Decision 2004/757/JHA as regards the inclusion of new psychoactive substances in the definition of ‘drug’. Entered into force in March 2019.</p>	<p><i>Envisaged follow-up</i></p> <p>When dangerous new psychoactive substances will be reported upon by the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addictions, the banning of these substances at EU level will follow the new procedure established by the legislative package, which entails a quicker process compared to the one applicable before November 2018.</p>

12 E	Drugs - International scheduling of cannabis and cannabis-related substances	
	International scheduling of new psychoactive substances (NPS)	
	Responsible WP: Horizontal Working Party on Drugs (HDG)	
	<i>Main documents</i>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commission proposal for a COUNCIL DECISION on the position to be adopted, on behalf of the European Union, in the sixty-third session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on the scheduling of substances under the United Nations Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol, and under the United Nations Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971 (15091/19 + ADD1) • Commission proposal for a COUNCIL DECISION on the position to be adopted, on behalf of the European Union, in the sixty-third session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on the scheduling of substances under the United Nations Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol, and under the United Nations Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971 (15126/19 + ADD1) 	
	<i>State of play/progress made</i>	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i>
	A list of cannabis and cannabis-related substances, and a list of new psychoactive substances were proposed by WHO for a UN decision international scheduling at the 63rd session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in March 2019. On this basis, the above mentioned Commission proposals for Council Decisions were presented for discussion in the HDG with a view to Council adoption before March 2020.	Discussions of the Commission proposals in the HDG and adoption by the Council before March 2020. Decisions at the 63rd Session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (March 2020) on the voting of the various scheduling recommendations.

12 F	Drugs - International scheduling of drug precursors	
	<i>Main documents</i>	
	<i>State of play/progress made</i>	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i> A Council Decision is to be adopted on the position to be adopted on behalf of the EU in the 63rd session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in March 2020 on the addition to the list of substances in the Tables of the UN Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances.
12. G		
	<i>Main documents</i>	

13.	Monitor the implementation of the CCWP 9th Action Plan 2018-2019 and the link with the Operational Action Plans from the EU Policy Cycle for organised and serious international crime Responsible WP: CCWP	
	<i>Main documents</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9th Action Plan (January 2018 - December 2019 (13926/3/17 REV 3)) • Synergies and opportunities for coordination between the activities developed under the EU Policy Cycle and the Ninth Customs Cooperation Working Party Action Plan for the year 2018 (5920/2/18) • Synergies and opportunities for coordination between the activities developed under the EU Policy Cycle and the Ninth Customs Cooperation Working Party Action Plan for the year 2019 (15433/18) 	
	<i>State of play/progress made</i> <p>On 18 December 2018, the business case for JCO POSTBOX II (13893/18) within Action 9.3 "Customs against internet crime" was presented by the Belgian delegation and approved by CCWP. Presentations were made by the leaders of Action 9.1.1, 9.1.2.1, 9.2, 9.4, 9.5, 9.6 and 9.7 on progress made on the respective actions.</p> <p>On 9 January 2019, the Bulgarian delegation made a presentation on a questionnaire for Action 9.5 "IPR infringements".</p> <p>On 16 April 2019, presentations were made by the leaders of Actions 9.4 and 9.7 on the progress made on the respective actions.</p> <p>On 18 June 2019, presentations were made by the leaders of Actions 9.1.1 and 9.3 on the progress made on the respective actions and the leader of Action 9.7 presented the final report.</p> <p>On 18 July 2019, a presentation was made by the leader of Action 9.1.2.2 on the state of play of the action and the leader of Action 9.1.1 presented a draft report.</p> <p>On 16 September 2019, the final report on Action 9.7 was approved by the CCWP.</p>	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i> - Presentations on and approval of final reports

	<p>On 26 November 2019, the final report on Action 9.1.1 was approved by the CCWP.</p> <p>On 17 December 2019, the leader of Action 9.1.2.2 presented the final report, which was approved by the CCWP. The leader of Action 9.5 presented the state of play of the action.</p>	
13 A	<p>Monitor the implementation of the CCWP 9th Action Plan 2020-2021 and the link with the Operational Action Plans from the EU Policy Cycle for organised and serious international crime</p> <p>Responsible WP: CCWP</p>	
	<p><i>Main documents</i></p> <p>10th Action Plan (15307/19)</p>	
	<p><i>State of play/progress made</i></p> <p>On 17 December, the CCWP adopted the 10th Action Plan 2020-2021.</p>	<p><i>Envisaged follow-up</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentations and adoptions of mandates. - Monitor the implementation on the 10th Action Plan. - Ensure fluent flow of information between Action leaders and CCWP as well as with drivers of the relevant OAPs. - Participation of the CCWP PRES in the relevant OAP drafting meetings & NECs meetings

14.	<p>Strengthen the EU's' capacity for the detection of illicit trade in goods at the external border, in line with the EU Strategy and Action Plan for customs risk management.</p> <p>Responsible WP: CCWP</p>	
	<p><i>Main documents</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, THE COUNCIL AND THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE on the EU Strategy and Action Plan for customs risk management: Tackling risks, strengthening supply chain security and facilitating trade COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, THE COUNCIL AND THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE on the EU Strategy and Action Plan for customs risk management: Tackling risks, strengthening supply chain security and facilitating trade (12644/14 + ADD 1) • Council Conclusions on the EU Strategy and Action Plan on customs risk management: Tackling risks, strengthening supply chain security and facilitating trade (15403/14) <p>The EU Strategy and Action Plan for customs risk management aims for a multi-layered approach to strengthen the capacity of the customs authorities in the fight against illicit trade. An important objective is to enhance the cooperation and exchange of information between Customs and other law enforcement agencies in order to achieve more intelligence-led controls on goods mainly at the external border of the EU.</p>	
	<p><i>State of play/progress made</i></p> <p>On 26 September 2018, the first Joint Session of Directors General of Customs Administrations and Chiefs of Police was held in Europol HQ. The importance of customs being able to use Passenger Name Records data was also highlighted. Particular mentioning of cooperation with Europol, deployment of customs liaison officers, access to SIENA. The Joint Session resulted in a Joint Statement (WK 10292/2018) outlining which subjects should be addressed in the future, including intensified cooperation, information exchange and interoperability.</p> <p>On 8 November 2018, CCWP took note of a presentation by representatives from the Commission (DG TAXUD and DG HOME) on a joint explanatory note on the Use of Passenger Name Records by customs authorities (13798/18).</p>	<p><i>Envisaged follow-up</i></p> <p>Prepare the discussion which will be held at the meeting of EPCC-DGs of Customs in September 2020</p>

<p>The Romanian Presidency elaborated a questionnaire on the implementation of the PNR Directive, of which the results were presented at the CCWP meeting on 16 September 2019.</p> <p>The EPCC-DGs of Customs was held on 2-3 October 2019 where the extended cooperation with WCO was presented: WCO has an action plan to exchange official between Europol and WCO for joint capacity building. There are also joint operations. WCO has recently gained access to SIENA and will from 2020 give input to SOCTA.</p>	
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15.	Environmental crime Responsible WP: LEWP, COPEN	
	<p><i>Main documents</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Conclusions on countering environmental crime - Council conclusions (8 December 2016) (15412/16) • Implementation 2018-2021 EU Policy Cycle for organised and serious international crime: Multi Annual Strategic Plan (MASP) for Environmental Crime Priority (11806/17) • 2018 Operational Action Plan (OAP) Environmental Crime (14484/1/17 REV 1 RESTREINT UE + COR 1) • Eighth round of mutual evaluations on environmental crime - Questionnaire (30 May 2017) (8919/1/17) 	
	<p><i>State of play/progress made</i></p> <p>The eighth round of mutual evaluations on environmental crime has been concluded and all reports have been adopted.</p>	<p><i>Envisaged follow-up</i></p> <p>Continuous</p> <p>All evaluation reports will be adopted by June 2019, except the reports from the last three visits and the final report, which will be discussed in September 2019. The consolidated final report should be discussed and approved by CATS in November.</p>
16.	Forensic science area Responsible WP: LEWP	
	<p><i>Main documents</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Conclusions and Action Plan on the way forward in view of the creation of a European Forensic Science Area - Council conclusions (9 June 2016) (10128/16) • Implementation of the Action Plan on the way forward in view of the creation of a European Forensic Science Area (19 October 2017) (10122/1/17 REV 1) • Action Plan on the way forward in view of the creation of a European Forensic Science Area - mid-term progress report (22 November 2017) (14606/17) 	
	<p><i>State of play/progress made</i></p> <p>Mid-term progress report adopted at the LEWP meeting on 26 November 2017 (14606/17). One further implementation report has been discussed at the LEWP meeting on 21 May 2019 (9081/19).</p>	<p><i>Envisaged follow-up</i></p> <p>Further monitoring of implementation as appropriate on the basis of new developments.</p>

17.	Administrative approach Responsible WP: LEWP	
	<i>Main documents</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council conclusions on the administrative approach to prevent and fight serious and organised crime (9 June 2016)(9935/2016) • Network on Administrative Approach - Affiliation to the LEWP (22 March 2018) (7316/18) 	
	<i>State of play/progress made</i> The e affiliation of the Network on Administrative Approach to the LEWP was announced at the meeting on 21 June 2018.	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i> Monitoring of the Network's activity according to the guidelines for networks (strategic objectives, work programmes, annual reports - cf. 15572/17).

18.	Illicit firearms Responsible WP: LEWP, CCWP	
	<p><i>Main documents</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Conclusions on the Adoption of an EU Strategy Against Illicit Firearms, Small Arms & Light Weapons & Their Ammunition (13581/18) • EU action plan against illicit trafficking in and use of firearms and explosives (2 December 2015) (COM(2015) 624 final) • 2019 Operation Action Plan (OAP) Firearms (13670/2/18 REV 2 RESTREINT UE) • 2020 Operation Action Plan (OAP) Firearms (11685/19 REV 1 RESTREINT UE) • 8th CCWP Action Plan (Action 8.4): Illicit trafficking of firearms - Draft final report (22 March 2018) (7241/18) • COM Recommendation of 17 April 2018 on immediate steps to improve security of export, import and transit measures for firearms, their parts and essential components and ammunition (C(2018) 2197 final) • REPORT FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL Evaluation of the 2015-2019 action plan on firearms trafficking between the EU and the south-east Europe region SWD(2019) 282 final 	
	<p><i>State of play/progress made</i></p> <p>COSI took note on 26 June 2018 of a presentation by the Chair of the European Firearms Experts (EFE) network on best practice guidance for the creation of national firearms focal points within the EU Member States (8586/18), as endorsed by the LEWP on 17 May 2018. The purpose of the focal points is to gather, analyse and improve the flow of information regarding the criminal use and illicit trafficking of firearms into and within the Member State and throughout the EU at a strategic and operational level.</p> <p>COM adopted on 16 January 2019 two implementing directives, establishing technical specifications for the marking of firearms,³³</p>	<p><i>Envisaged follow-up</i></p> <p>Continue monitoring the implementation of the OAP 2019 on FIREARMS.</p> <p>The LEWP continues to monitor the further developments on the creation of national firearms focal points within the EU Member States, and the issue was highlighted again at its meeting on 19 November 2019 where the Member States were reminded to create their focal points, should this not be done so far.</p> <p>As there is not a specific action in the 9th Action Plan on firearms, the Presidency should support the involvement of customs in the relevant operational actions of the OAP Firearms and ensure</p>

³³ Commission Implementing Directive (EU) 2019/68 of 16 January 2019 establishing technical specifications for the marking of firearms and their essential components under Council Directive 91/477/EEC on control of the acquisition and possession of weapons (Text with EEA relevance.) C/2019/109 OJ L 15, 17.1.2019, p. 18–21.

<p>improving traceability of firearms, and ensuring that convertible gas and alarm weapons are controlled as firearms.³⁴ On 27 June 2019, the Commission adopted its Evaluation of the 2015-2019 action plan on firearms trafficking between the EU and the south-east Europe region.</p>	<p>coordination with the driver (ES) by inviting him to the CCWP.</p>
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³⁴ Commission Implementing Directive (EU) 2019/69 of 16 January 2019 laying down technical specifications for alarm and signal weapons under Council Directive 91/477/EEC on control of the acquisition and possession of weapons (Text with EEA relevance.), C/2019/108, OJ L 15, 17.1.2019, p. 22–26.

19.	Smuggling of migrants³⁵ Responsible WP: COSI, SCIFA	
	<p><i>Main documents</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In May 2015, the Commission published the <u>EU Action Plan against Migrant Smuggling</u> setting out a series of steps to tackle this problem between 2015 and 2020 • Council conclusions on migrant smuggling, (10-11 March 2016) (6995/16) • Implementation 2018-2021 EU Policy Cycle for organised and serious international crime: Multi Annual Strategic Plan (MASP) for Illegal Immigration (13232/17) • 2019 Operational Action Plan (OAP) Facilitation of Illegal Immigration (13658/2/18 REV 2 RESTREINT UE) • 2020 Operational Action Plan (OAP) Facilitation of Illegal Immigration (11691/19 RESTREINT UE) • Europol's two-year activity report from the European Migrant Smuggling Centre (EMSC) (9811/18) • Enhancing the response to migrant smuggling networks: a comprehensive and operational set of measures (15250/18) 	
	<p><i>State of play/progress made</i></p> <p>As tasked by the European Council in October, on 6 December 2018 the JHA Council approved a comprehensive and operational set of measures with law enforcement focus on enhancing the response to migrant smuggling networks. These measures build upon and are fully coherent with the relevant EU policy framework on this matter: the EU Action Plan against migrant smuggling 2015-2020.</p> <p>The RO presidency and the GSC organised a conference on the 15.05.19 namely '@ Breaking Barriers and Securing Borders: An Operational response to Counter Migrant Smuggling'.</p>	<p><i>Envisaged follow-up</i></p> <p>Monitoring the implementation of the set of operational measures including the Joint Liaison Task Force in Europol.</p> <p>Ensure full implementation of the EU Action Plan as regards actions that fall within Member States competences, in particular as regards enhancing operational cooperation between Member States and with relevant third countries.</p>

³⁵ Including in the context of the European Agenda on Migration (COM(2015) 240 final)

20.	Trafficking in human beings Responsible WP: COSI, DROIPEN	
	<p><i>Main documents</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council reporting on the follow-up to the EU Strategy towards the Eradication of trafficking in human beings and identifying further concrete actions (4 December 2017) (COM(2017) 728 final) • Conclusions of the Council of the European Union and of the Member States meeting within the Council on addressing trafficking in human beings (THB) for labour exploitation - Council conclusions (9 June 2016) (9938/16) • Implementation 2018-2021 EU Policy Cycle for organised and serious international crime: Multi Annual Strategic Plan (MASP) for THB (14146/1/17 REV 1) • 2019 Operational Action Plan (OAP) THB (13659/2/18 REV 2 RESTREINT UE) • 2020 Operational Action Plan (OAP) THB (11692/19 RESTREINT UE) • Report from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council on the progress made in the fight against trafficking in human beings (2016) as required under Article 20 of Directive 2011/36/EU on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings and protecting its victims (COM(2016) 267 final) • Report from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council assessing the extent to which Member States have taken the necessary measures in order to comply with Directive 2011/36/EU on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings and protecting its victims in accordance with Article 23 (1) (COM(2016) 722 final) • Report from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council assessing the impact of existing national law, establishing as a criminal offence the use of services which are the objects of exploitation of trafficking in human beings, on the prevention of trafficking in human beings, in accordance with Article 23 (2) of the Directive 2011/36/EU (COM(2016) 719 final) • Second report on the progress made in the fight against trafficking in human beings (2018) as required under Article 20 of Directive 2011/36/EU on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings and protecting its victims (15677/18 +ADD 1) 	
	<p><i>State of play/progress made</i></p> <p>On 4 February 2019 COSI SG took note of the Second report on the progress made in the fight against trafficking in human beings (2018) as required under Article 20 of Directive 2011/36/EU on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings and protecting its victims (15677/18 + ADD 1)</p>	<p><i>Envisaged follow-up</i></p> <p>Continue monitoring the implementation of the OAP 2019 on THB and the other relevant aspects outlined in the COM Communications.</p>

1.3.Preventing and fighting cybercrime and enhancing cybersecurity	
21.	Budapest Convention (ratification by MS) Responsible WP: HWP on Cyber
	<i>Main documents</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CoE Convention on cyber-crime (Budapest Convention)
<i>State of play/progress made</i> Still 2 MSs remain to ratify the Budapest Convention.	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i> Continuous

22.	<p>Cyber related challenges Responsible WP: HWP on Cyber Issues, COSI</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WHOIS • Emergency response protocol for coordinated EU LEA response • Roadmap on dark web • CGN Address translation and on-line attribution 		
	<p><i>Main documents</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The EU's fight against cybercrime: EU law enforcement response - Presidency report (28 November 2017) (14762/17) • EU Law Enforcement Response to Cybercrime (07 May 2018) (WK 5430/2018) • Reform of the domain name WHOIS - EU lines to take of 23 January 2018 (5506/18) of 23 October (13443/18) • Letter sent from the Commission to the Chair of ICANN on the WHOIS system. WHOIS system (13 February 2018) (WK 1687/2018) • State of play of the WHOIS domain names database reform () (WK 13308/19) 		
	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p><i>State of play/progress made</i></p> <p>Work on the WHOIS database at the level of ICANN reform is primarily followed by the Commission-led High-Level Group on Internet Governance (HLIG). The HWP on Cyber Issues also observes the reform process, in particular with regard to questions on access for cybersecurity and law enforcement purposes. The reform at the level of ICANN now entered its second phase during which the access to non-public WHOIS data is tackled. First results by 2020 with practical implementation in 2021. At the HWP on Cyber Issues meeting of 20 November 2019, the Commission reported on state of play of the work at the level of ICANN66.</p> </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p><i>Envisaged follow-up</i></p> <p>The HR Presidency will continue to monitor the work and the progress of WHOIS reform.</p> <p>In Q1-Q2 2019, a cyber-exercise on the LE ERP will be organised under the EMPACT Attack against Information Systems Operational Action Plan 2019. The standard Joint Investigation Team (JIT) template for cyber-specific matters currently under preparation by Eurojust shall be added in the Annex of the EU LE ERP. Europol and in particular the Dark Web team will continue to mainstream the Roadmap in their activities in support of the MS efforts to respond to the growing criminality on the Dark Web. There is a clear action plan for 2019 including the implementation of an Operational Planning and Co-ordination Group (OPCG) to develop the global response strategy, the introduction of a new Analysis Project Dark Web, and support to a series of EMPACT</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p><i>State of play/progress made</i></p> <p>Work on the WHOIS database at the level of ICANN reform is primarily followed by the Commission-led High-Level Group on Internet Governance (HLIG). The HWP on Cyber Issues also observes the reform process, in particular with regard to questions on access for cybersecurity and law enforcement purposes. The reform at the level of ICANN now entered its second phase during which the access to non-public WHOIS data is tackled. First results by 2020 with practical implementation in 2021. At the HWP on Cyber Issues meeting of 20 November 2019, the Commission reported on state of play of the work at the level of ICANN66.</p>	<p><i>Envisaged follow-up</i></p> <p>The HR Presidency will continue to monitor the work and the progress of WHOIS reform.</p> <p>In Q1-Q2 2019, a cyber-exercise on the LE ERP will be organised under the EMPACT Attack against Information Systems Operational Action Plan 2019. The standard Joint Investigation Team (JIT) template for cyber-specific matters currently under preparation by Eurojust shall be added in the Annex of the EU LE ERP. Europol and in particular the Dark Web team will continue to mainstream the Roadmap in their activities in support of the MS efforts to respond to the growing criminality on the Dark Web. There is a clear action plan for 2019 including the implementation of an Operational Planning and Co-ordination Group (OPCG) to develop the global response strategy, the introduction of a new Analysis Project Dark Web, and support to a series of EMPACT</p>
<p><i>State of play/progress made</i></p> <p>Work on the WHOIS database at the level of ICANN reform is primarily followed by the Commission-led High-Level Group on Internet Governance (HLIG). The HWP on Cyber Issues also observes the reform process, in particular with regard to questions on access for cybersecurity and law enforcement purposes. The reform at the level of ICANN now entered its second phase during which the access to non-public WHOIS data is tackled. First results by 2020 with practical implementation in 2021. At the HWP on Cyber Issues meeting of 20 November 2019, the Commission reported on state of play of the work at the level of ICANN66.</p>	<p><i>Envisaged follow-up</i></p> <p>The HR Presidency will continue to monitor the work and the progress of WHOIS reform.</p> <p>In Q1-Q2 2019, a cyber-exercise on the LE ERP will be organised under the EMPACT Attack against Information Systems Operational Action Plan 2019. The standard Joint Investigation Team (JIT) template for cyber-specific matters currently under preparation by Eurojust shall be added in the Annex of the EU LE ERP. Europol and in particular the Dark Web team will continue to mainstream the Roadmap in their activities in support of the MS efforts to respond to the growing criminality on the Dark Web. There is a clear action plan for 2019 including the implementation of an Operational Planning and Co-ordination Group (OPCG) to develop the global response strategy, the introduction of a new Analysis Project Dark Web, and support to a series of EMPACT</p>		

<p>The EU LE ERP was approved by the European Union Cybercrime Task Force (EUCTF) in October 2018 and the Heads of the Europol National Units (HENUs) in November 2018.</p> <p>The final EU LE ERP package (14893/18) was tabled in the COSI Support Group on 10 December 2018.</p> <p>The Roadmap was endorsed by COSI in December 2017. The Roadmap is being implemented within the new EU Policy Cycle and is in line with the newly adopted horizontal cross-crime strategic goal to address the illicit trade online of goods and services (incl. on the Dark Web). The Roadmap's concrete implementation has already been included under the relevant 2018 and 2019 European Multidisciplinary Platform against Criminal Threats (EMPACT) priorities, such as the Attacks against information systems Operational Action Plan (OAP) (led by Europol's EC3).</p>	<p>operational actions and trainings. The development of the dark web data collection capability is also foreseen however, it is subject to the allocation of ad-hoc resources to address the issue as a whole.</p> <p>Work concerning online attribution and CGN address translation will continue, working with Internet access/content providers to circumvent the attribution limitation due to CGN and fostering IPv6 deployments that takes into account attribution issues.</p>
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23.	Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Responsible WP: COSI	
	<p><i>Main documents</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation 2018-2021 EU Policy Cycle for organised and serious international crime: Multi Annual Strategic Plan (MASP) for CSE (13233/17) • 2019 Operation Action Plan (OAP) CSE (13667/2/18 REV 2 RESTREINT UE) • 2020 Operation Action Plan (OAP) CSE (11684/19 RESTREINT UE) • Improved EU Law Enforcement Capability to Address Online Child Sexual Exploitation - Europol note (8 February 2018) (5932/18) and Exchange of views (12 February 2018) (5933/18) • EU Law Enforcement Response to Cybercrime (7 May 2018) (WK 5430/2018) 	
	<p><i>State of play/progress made</i></p> <p>The improvement of EU law enforcement capability to address child sexual exploitation online in the context of the use of automatic detection and filtering technologies was discussed in COSI on 21 February 2018. Work is taking place in the TELECOM WP on the proposed ePrivacy regulation, which will have an impact on the use of such technologies in the context of electronic communications and where delegates are striving to find a satisfactory solution.</p> <p>On 23 March 2018 Europol organised a dedicated workshop in the EU Policy Cycle Framework to discuss recurring challenges in identifying and safeguarding the child victims of these crimes as well as in identifying and apprehending offenders (WK 5430/2018).</p>	<p><i>Envisaged follow-up</i></p> <p>Europol to inform developments as necessary.</p> <p>FI PRES will be working to raise awareness and bring to the forefront the fight against child sexual exploitation through discussions in the October 2019 Justice and Home Affairs Council session culminating with the adoption of Council Conclusions.</p>

24.	Monitor the implementation of the EU Cybersecurity strategy Responsible WP: HWP on Cyber Issues	
	<i>Main documents</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action plan for the implementation of the Council Conclusions on Commission Joint Communication on Resilience, Deterrence and Defence (15748/17) • Progress report by the BG Presidency (10216/18) • Progress report by the AT Presidency (15364/18) • Adoption of a Horizontal Cyber Sanctions regime (7299/19 and 7302/19) • Guidelines on 'Coordinated attribution at EU level' as an annex to the Implementing Guidelines (10037/19) 	
	<i>State of play/progress made</i> <p>The RO and FI Presidency worked further towards improving the resilience and maintaining high standards in the area of cybersecurity in the EU. However no progress reports have been prepared by these presidencies. However no progress reports have been prepared by these presidencies.</p> <p>The FI Presidency focused its work in the context of the Framework for a Joint EU diplomatic response to malicious cyber activities -the Cyber Diplomacy Toolbox- and its further implementation. The Presidency addressed this by promoting exchanges and joint discussions with PSC and other relevant Relex and military working parties (COASI, COEST, MOG and PMG) on coordination on situational awareness and the development of all the measures included in the Cyber Diplomacy Toolbox including possible use of restrictive measures.</p>	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i> <p>The HR PRES will continue to work on implementing the Cyber Diplomatic Toolbox, namely in relation to the cyber sanctions regime. It will also develop other aspects in the area of cybersecurity as the advance on the Cybersecurity Competence Centre proposal and look into new technologies as AI, IoT and 5G with synergies for LE.</p>

25.	Hybrid threats and Disinformation Responsible WP: Horizontal Working Party on Enhancing Resilience and Countering Hybrid Threats	
	<i>Main documents</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint communication to the European Parliament and the Council: "Joint Framework on countering hybrid threats - a European Union response", (6 April 2016) JOIN(2016) 18 final • Joint Report to the European Parliament and the Council on the implementation of the Joint Framework on countering hybrid threats - a European Union response (28 July 2017) (11539/17) • Joint communication of the European Commission and the High Representative, JOIN (2018) 36 final, of 5 December 2018: Action Plan against Disinformation. • Joint communication Report on the implementation of the Action Plan Against Disinformation,(June 2019) JOIN(2019) 12 final • Joint communication of the European Commission and the High Representative, JOIN (2018)16 final, of 13 June 2018: Increasing resilience and bolstering capabilities to address hybrid threats • Communication on tackling on-line disinformation, COM(2018) 236. • Report on the implementation of the Communication "Tackling online disinformation: a European Approach" • Communication on securing free and fair elections, COM (2018) 637 • <u>Proposal for amending the Regulation</u> on funding of European political parties • <u>Commission Recommendation</u> on election cooperation networks, online transparency, protection against cybersecurity incidents and fighting disinformation campaigns in the context of elections to the European Parliament • <u>Commission Guidance</u> on the application of Union data protection law in the electoral context • Recommendation on enhancing the European nature and efficient conduct of the 2019 elections to the European Parliament C(2018) 900 • Council Conclusions on Complementary efforts to enhance resilience and counter hybrid threats 14922/19 • Conclusions of the Council and of the Member States on securing free and fair European elections 6573/1/19 REV 1 • Council conclusions on Security and defence 10048/19 • Council Conclusions on EU Coordinated response to Large Scale Cybersecurity Incidents and Crises (10086/18) 	
	<i>State of play/progress made</i> Discussion to establish the HWP on Enhancing Resilience and Countering Hybrid Threats.	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i> Enhance EU preparedness and resilience to EU threats in the area of internal security.

26.	EU Position in international fora Responsible WP: HWP on Cyber Issues	
	<i>Main documents</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU Lines to take on a draft resolution on "Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security" (12094/18) • EU Lines to take on cybercrime developments in the framework of the UN (12186/18) • EU lines to take on WHOIS policy reform (13443/18) • EU Lines to take in view of the Fifth Meeting of the UN IEG on cybercrime (7432/19) • EU contribution to UNGA Resolution" Countering the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes" (12196/19) • Coordinated EU and its Member States position in view to the June Open-ended working group (OEWG) in the context of upcoming discussions within the UN on cyber issues (9420/19) • Narrative paper on open, free, stable and secure cyberspace in the context of international security (10472/19) • EU Lines to take in view of the first substantive meeting of the Open-ended working group (OEWG), September 2019 (11764/19) 	
	<i>State of play/progress made</i> <p>EU Positions on cyber policy issues in international fora were discussed by the HWP on Cyber Issues and adopted by COREPER (12094/18, 12186,18, 13433/18).</p> <p>Following discussions at the HWP on Cyber issues on the follow-up to the 2016/2017 UNGGE process, and namely on the two resolutions adopted in the UNGA in December 2018 that called for the creation of a OEWG (A/RES/73/27) and a new GGE (A/RES/73/266), Coreper adopted in the first semester 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a Coordinated EU and its Member States position in view to the June (OEWG) organizational meeting, in its meeting of 29 May; - a Narrative paper on open, free, stable and secure cyberspace in the context of international security, in its meeting of 26 July. 	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i> <p>Discussions in the Horizontal Working Party on Cyber Issues will continue during the HR to establish the EU positions in relation to the UN-related processes 2019-2021 including meetings of the OEWG and GGE, and on-going developments in the third committee.</p>

The FI Presidency continued to ensure unity and efficient outreach of the EU in contributing to the UN process by discussing in the HWPCI positions in preparation of the OEWG and GGE meetings in the second semester 2019 and adopting LTT when applicable. ToR were also adopted for an EU demarche at the third committee.

27.	Directive on combatting fraud and counterfeiting of non-cash means of payment Responsible WP: DROIPEN	
	<i>Main documents</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commission proposal for a Directive on combating fraud and counterfeiting of non-cash means of payment (12181/17) • 2019 Operation Action Plan (OAP) CSE (13666/1/18 REV 1 RESTREINT UE) • 2020 Operation Action Plan (OAP) CSE (11696/19 RESTREINT UE) 	
	<i>State of play/progress made</i> Political agreement reached with the EP in December 2018.	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i> Implementation

2. Cross-cutting priority areas	
Information exchange and interoperability	
28.	<p>eu-LISA Regulation Responsible WP: DAPIX (IXIM)</p> <p><i>Main documents</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regulation 2018/1726 on the European Agency for the operational management of large-scale IT systems in the area of freedom, security and justice, and amending Regulation (EC) 1987/2006 and Council Decision 2007/533/JHA and repealing Regulation (EU) 1077/2011(OJ L 295, 21.11.2018, p. 99–137)
	<p><i>State of play/progress made</i></p> <p>Regulation formally adopted in November 2018 and published in the OJ (Regulation 2018/1726, OJ L 295, 21.11.2018, p. 99–137) The Commission adopted on 3 September 2018 a proposal for a Council Decision on the signing, on behalf of the EU, of the Arrangement with the Kingdom of Norway, the Republic of Iceland, the Swiss Confederation and the Principality of Liechtenstein, on the participation by those States in the European Agency for the operational management of large-scale IT systems in the area of freedom, security and justice and a proposal for a Council Decision on the conclusion of this Arrangement.</p> <p>The Council decision on signing of the arrangement was adopted in October 2018 and the Arrangement was signed on 8 November 2018. The Decision on the conclusion of the Arrangement was adopted in May 2019 and the Arrangement was published in the OJ (L 138/19, pp. 11-29).</p>
	<p><i>Envisaged follow-up</i></p> <p><i>Preparations started for the implementation of the Arrangement.</i></p>

29.	Interoperability regulations Responsible WP: DAPIX (IXIM)	
	<i>Main documents</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulations (EU) 2019/817 and 2019/818 have been published (OJ L135, 22.05.2019, p. 27 and p. 85). 	
	<i>State of play/progress made</i> A mandate for negotiations with the European Parliament was agreed upon at Coreper on 14 June 2018 (10453/18 A political agreement was reached with the EP on 5 February 2019 (5691/19). The Regulations entered into force on 11 June 2019.	<i>Envisaged follow-up:</i> The implementation of the interoperability framework, including the new EU information systems (EES, ETIAS and ECRIS-TCN) will need to be monitored closely at EU and national level. Several implementing acts and delegated acts must be adopted before the interoperability of EU information systems becomes effective. eu-LISA is starting to develop the interoperability components (CIR, ESP, MID and sBMS) and, once they will enter into operation the Agency will ensure their operational management.
30.	Monitoring and implementation of the Roadmap on information exchange Responsible WP: COSI, DAPIX (IXIM) FoP on interoperability	
	<i>Main documents</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roadmap to enhance information exchange and information management including interoperability solutions in the Justice and Home Affairs area: - Update following Council Conclusions on interoperability (14750/17) • Third implementation report of the Roadmap to enhance information exchange and information management including interoperability solutions in the Justice and Home Affairs area (7931/18) 	
	<i>State of play/progress made</i> COSI endorsed the Annual Implementation report on the Interoperability Roadmap at its meeting on 26 June 2018.	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i> The implementation of remaining actions will follow mainly after the adoption of various pieces of legislation including the Interoperability regulations.

31.	Monitoring of the PNR Directive Responsible WP: DAPIX (IXIM)	
	<p><i>Main documents</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5505/19, 10459/19, 11259/19: reports on the informal working group on PNR (IWG PNR) under FR and BE chair • 14746/19 	
	<p><i>State of play/progress made</i></p> <p>Implementation deadline 25 May 2018.</p> <p>By 18 December 2019, 26 MS (BE, BG, CY, CZ, EE, EL, DE, FI, FR, HR, HU, IE, IT, LV, LT, LU, MT, NL, AT, PL, PT RO, SI, SK, SE, UK) have communicated to COM the measures they have adopted to transpose the Directive.</p> <p>The PIU – SIRENE co-operation and SIS use for PNR purposes were discussed at SIS/VIS COM as well as during the Heads of SIRENE meeting in Bucharest on 20-21 June 2019.</p> <p>Discussions launched by the FI Presidency on widening the scope of PNR to other forms of transport lead to the adoption of Council conclusions on 2 December 2019 (14746/19).</p>	<p><i>Envisaged follow-up</i></p> <p>Continuation of IWG PNR meetings at expert level under BE chair (as of September 2019), which suggested to review the IWG working methods; continuation of meetings at expert level with COM on application of PNR.</p> <p>Completeness and conformity assessment of the national transposition measures, to be carried out by COM and an external contractor.</p> <p>A questionnaire mid-term Report on the application of the Directive was submitted and answers collected is going to be drafted during the RO Presidency. A relevant document was drafted based on the results of the questionnaire (ST 6300/19 Monitoring the implementation of Directive (EU)_ 2016/681 on the use of passenger name record (PNR) data).</p> <p>Review of the Directive to be conducted by the Commission by 25 May 2020 (in line with its Article 19).</p>

32.	Prüm decisions Responsible WP: DAPIX (IXIM)	
	<i>Main documents</i> 5077/18, 5322/19 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11264/19, 13356/19, 13511/19, 13556/19 • 14744/19 	
	<p><i>State of play/progress made</i></p> <p>Evaluation of UK with regard to FP exchange and adoption of Council conclusions on 2 December 2019 (14744/19) Draft Council Implementing Decision on the launch of automated data exchange for UK FP was sent to EP for consultation on 12 December 2019.</p> <p>Regular update on increase of bilateral connections between operational MS</p> <p>COM feasibility study on improving information exchange under the Prüm Decisions was launched in November 2018 and three workshops with the study contractor were carried out in 2019.</p> <p>Focus groups met to discuss issues related to DNA/Finger Print/VRD/Facial Image/Other Forms of Police Cooperation) and delivered final reports (11264/19, 13356/19, 13511/19, 13556/19).</p> <p>Agreements with CH and LI on the application of certain Prüm provisions were signed on 27 June 2019. The European Parliament gave its consent on both Agreements on 17 December 2019.</p>	<p><i>Envisaged follow-up</i></p> <p>Finalisation of GR (VRD),</p> <p>Preparation of IT (DNA, FP, UK, FP, VRD) as to their access to automated data exchange:</p> <p>d Discussion on technical features of next Prüm generation (Prüm.ng) within the focus groups lead to final reports (11264/19, 13356/19, 13511/19, 13556/19), to be further discussed within the working party.</p> <p>A questionnaire regarding the technical difficulties encountered in automatic data exchange in the context of Prüm was promoted during the RO Presidency. Its findings contributed to the work within the framework of the Prüm.ng <i>focus groups</i> and will be integrated in the COM feasibility study.</p> <p>Action that will be taken by the COM after publication of the final report publication by the study contractor.</p>

33.	Prüm training needs analysis Responsible WP: DAPIX (IXIM)	
	<i>Main documents</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6807/1/17 REV 1: outcome of survey on Prüm training needs 	
	<i>State of play/progress made</i> CEPOL online learning module re-drafted, completed and made accessible on CEPOL website.	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i> Although there is no concrete follow-up envisaged, some aspects of the training in the Prüm context will be covered by the feasibility study launched by the COM and by the work of the <i>focus groups</i> .
34.	Develop/implement information management strategy (IMS) actions Responsible WP: DAPIX (IXIM)	
	<i>Main documents</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6742/18 (document sets out the list of actions and the documents referring to the state of play of their implementation) • 12825/19 • 11434/19, 12506/1/19 REV 1, 13510/19 	
	<i>State of play/progress made</i> Adoption of action list No 6 (6742/18), which continues with the implementation of list no 5. RO Presidency triggered discussions on the future of IMS within the internal security strategy (5685/19, 8561/19). The RO Presidency focussed on further exploring business needs and furthering of the automation of information exchange processes for de-centralised information exchange systems 5596/19, 9717/19. Discussions lead to FI Presidency paper on automation of information exchange in a strategic context (12506/1/19 REV 1 and a COSI discussion paper on EU information management (13510/19). Discussions on establishing a European Network of Heads of SPOCs lead to the adoption of Council conclusions on 7 October 2019 (8526/19, 12825/19).	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i> Implementation of, in particular, EPRIS-ADEP, UMF3+ ATHENA, PCCC strengthening Regular reports to DAPIX (IXIM) on progress made EPRIS-ADEPI II project once the European funding will be available.

35.	<p>Schengen Information System</p> <p>(1) for the return of illegally staying third-country nationals;</p> <p>(2) in the field of border checks;</p> <p>(3) in the field of police cooperation and judicial cooperation in criminal matters</p> <p>Responsible WP: Schengen Matters (SIS/SIRENE configuration)</p>
	<p><i>Main documents</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulation (EU) 2018/1860 on the establishment, operation and use of the Schengen Information System (SIS) for the return of illegally staying third-country nationals • Regulation (EU) 2018/1861 on the establishment, operation and use of the Schengen Information System (SIS) in the field of border checks, amending Regulation (EU) No 515/2014 and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1987/2006 • Regulation (EU) 2018/1862 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the establishment, operation and use of the Schengen Information System (SIS) in the field of police cooperation and judicial cooperation in criminal matters, amending Regulation (EU) No 515/2014 and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1986/2006, Council Decision 2007/533/JHA and Commission Decision 2010/261/EU
	<p><i>State of play/progress made</i></p> <p>The Regulations entered into force on 27 December 2018.</p> <p><i>Envisaged follow-up</i> There are four phases for their implementation: (i) from the date of entry into force (starting of all the preparatory measures; obligation to create alerts on the basis of terrorism-related offences); (ii) after one year (Europol and Frontex will have full access to SIS); (iii) after two years (AFIS becomes mandatory); (iv) within three years (all the provisions of the three Regulations will be applicable).</p> <p>RO PRES has paid attention to the monitoring of the preparations for implementation in particular as regards the full access to Europol to SIS alerts and the access of Frontex. FI PRES will continue to put the matter on the agenda and will focus on the implementation of some new features such as return alerts and the alerts on children at risk of abduction by a parent.</p> <p>COM, with the support of eu-LISA, is working on the preparation of the necessary implementing acts.</p>

		eu-LISA finalised the technical preparations and successfully launched a feature which enables EU Agencies - Europol, Eurojust and Frontex - to query all relevant types of alerts in the system along with performing fingerprint and extended search queries. The Agencies are working on finalising the technical implementation on their side. Regular updates have been provided by eu-LISA in several meetings.
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36.	SIS/SIRENE cooperation in the Fight against Foreign Terrorist Fighters Responsible WP: Schengen Matters (SIS/SIRENE configuration N.B. this configuration has now been merged with others to form the new WG on JHA Information Exchange (IXIM))	
	<i>Main documents</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Conclusions on strengthening the cooperation and the use of the Schengen Information System (SIS) to deal with persons involved in terrorism or terrorism-related activities, including foreign terrorist fighters (9691/18) (see measure 3) 	
	<i>State of play/progress made</i> <p>The Council Conclusions were adopted on 4 June 2018. Their implementation is ongoing. It covers actions related to FTF. The changes in the new SIS Regulations reinforce Europol's role in information exchange related to SIS hits on terrorism related activity. Member States will be obliged to share hit information on terrorists with Europol, as soon as Europol is technically ready to receive supplementary information. Europol is working on the technical implementation of this feature.</p> <p>As provided for in the legislation, detailed rules on sharing data with Europol will be included in the SIRENE Manual. The Commission is working on updating the SIRENE Manual. if necessary; and CEPOL is invited to continue developing training programmes for end-users of SIS, on the basis of the SIRENE Manual and Best Practices Catalogue, on the topic of persons involved in terrorism or terrorism-related activities, including foreign terrorist fighters, who are the subject of alerts in SIS.</p>	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i> <p>During a joint meeting of the SIS-SIRENE and Terrorism Working Parties held on 3 July 2019, the issue of stepping up the use of SIS in countering terrorism was brought back to the agenda focusing not only on FTFs but also issues such as using information received from trusted third countries, including battlefield information. These two topics have been discussed at several occasions during the Romanian and Finnish Presidency as well (COSI, TWP, SIS-SIRENE).</p>

37.	Capacity building of SIRENE bureaux Responsible WP: Schengen Matters (SIS/SIRENE configuration)	
	<i>Main documents</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of the SIRENE Bureaux in the framework of the Schengen Information System - Council conclusions (7 December 2017) (15560/17) • Questionnaire on the implementation of the Council Conclusions on the development of the SIRENE Bureaux in the framework of the Schengen Information System (SIRENE capability building) (11602/18 and 8032/1/19 REV 1) 	
	<i>State of play/progress made</i> <p>During the meeting of the Heads of SIRENE in Sofia, on 11-13 June 2018, Member States reported on the progress made on this matter. The Council Conclusions foresee an annual assessment.</p> <p>The Romanian Presidency provided the assessment for 2018 during the SIS-SIRENE WP held on 26 February 2019 and during its tenure the Questionnaire to be used for the annual assessment had been revised (8032/1/19 REV 1).</p> <p>The Finnish Presidency launched the revised questionnaire for the 2019 review (8032/1/19 REV 1).</p>	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i> <p>Following the launch of the questionnaire by the FI Presidency, the HR Presidency should be able to present the assessment early 2020 (delegations are requested to answer by 15 February 2020).</p>

38.	Implementation of AFIS in SIS Responsible WP: Schengen Matters (SIS/SIRENE configuration)	
	<i>Main documents</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) component of the SIS - Procedure for matches on fingerprints' (11527/18) 	
	<i>State of play/progress made</i> <p>On 8 March 2018 eu-LISA implemented SIS AFIS functionality at central level. SISAFIS Matches were established. SIRENE Manual was updated.</p> <p>Currently 15 MS are using SIS AFIS search functionality. ('Fast' fingerprint search is implemented in DE). During the Heads of SIRENE meeting held in Bucharest on 20-21 June 2019, the Commission and eu-LISA gave a presentation about the state of play while DE provided a sound business case of searching with fingerprints.</p>	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i> <p>FI PRES is going to continue promoting the new functionality and monitor the situation of the implementation.</p> <p>eu-LISA continues working towards the implementation of SIS AFIS phase II road map by implementing new operations and improving performance.</p>

39.	Extension of ECRIS to third country nationals Responsible WP: COPEN	
	<i>Main documents</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposal for a Directive amending Council Framework Decision 2009/315/JHA, as regards the exchange of information on third country nationals and as regards the European Criminal Records Information System (ECRIS), and replacing Council Decision 2009/316/JHA (5438/16 + ADD 1 + ADD 2) • Proposal for a Regulation establishing a centralised system for the identification of Member States holding conviction information on third country nationals and stateless persons (TCN) to supplement and support the European criminal records information system (ECRIS-TCN system) and amending Regulation (EU) No. 1077/2011 (10940/17 + ADD 1) 	
	<i>State of play/progress made</i> Political agreement with the EP was reached in December 2018. Regulations entered into force in June 2019 (...).	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i> Implementing acts are under preparation by the Commission with the support of eu-LISA, with the aim to be adopted in the period 2019-2020. Once they will be approved, eu-LISA will start the development of the system. (...)

<i>Availability of data</i>			
40.	<p>Data retention Responsible WP: FOPDAPIX - (Data retention)</p>		
	<p><i>Main documents</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retention of electronic communication data (9663/19) 		
	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p><i>State of play/progress made</i></p> <p>In view of the findings of the reflection process summarised in the AT presidency report on the state of play of the discussions on data retention for the purpose of fighting crime (14319/18) presented at the December 2018 meeting of the Council and following the Justice Ministers call at that meeting for further action, the RO Presidency prepared a set of Council Conclusions on the matter (9663/19) adopted by the JHA Council in June 2019.</p> <p>They called upon the Commission to conduct a comprehensive study on the possible solutions in this respect, including a legislative initiative, taking into account the necessity of data retention for effective law enforcement and the development of the case law of the ECJ.</p> <p>At the December meeting of the JHA Council the Commission provided information on the implementation of these Council Conclusions. It specified that targeted consultations were taking place with the relevant stakeholders and preparation of the comprehensive study as requested by the Council was on its way (expected to be finalised by mid-2020).</p> <p>During the FI Presidency one meeting of the FOP DAPIX (Data retention) took place in which the hearings on the recent cases pending before the ECJ and the new SE legislation on data retention were presented and discussed. Further to that, efforts continued in the TELECOM Working Party to ensure that the text</p> </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p><i>Envisaged follow-up</i></p> <p>Continue to monitor the national and case-law developments and also the implementation of the Council conclusions by the Commission.</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p><i>State of play/progress made</i></p> <p>In view of the findings of the reflection process summarised in the AT presidency report on the state of play of the discussions on data retention for the purpose of fighting crime (14319/18) presented at the December 2018 meeting of the Council and following the Justice Ministers call at that meeting for further action, the RO Presidency prepared a set of Council Conclusions on the matter (9663/19) adopted by the JHA Council in June 2019.</p> <p>They called upon the Commission to conduct a comprehensive study on the possible solutions in this respect, including a legislative initiative, taking into account the necessity of data retention for effective law enforcement and the development of the case law of the ECJ.</p> <p>At the December meeting of the JHA Council the Commission provided information on the implementation of these Council Conclusions. It specified that targeted consultations were taking place with the relevant stakeholders and preparation of the comprehensive study as requested by the Council was on its way (expected to be finalised by mid-2020).</p> <p>During the FI Presidency one meeting of the FOP DAPIX (Data retention) took place in which the hearings on the recent cases pending before the ECJ and the new SE legislation on data retention were presented and discussed. Further to that, efforts continued in the TELECOM Working Party to ensure that the text</p>	<p><i>Envisaged follow-up</i></p> <p>Continue to monitor the national and case-law developments and also the implementation of the Council conclusions by the Commission.</p>
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<p>of the draft ePrivacy Regulation would not hamper the availability of electronic communication data for criminal investigations. A number of proposals by delegations on limiting the scope of and clarifying the derogations from the draft Regulation in a way that would allow establishing regime for data retention were examined, however no final compromise was reached and the attempt of the Presidency to secure a general approach was not successful.</p>	
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41.	E-evidence Responsible WP: COPEN (E-evidence, 2nd Additional Protocol to the Budapest Convention, EU-US Agreement), CATS, HWP on Cyber Issues (Implementation of the Practical Measures on e-evidence)	
	<i>Main documents</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on European Production and Preservation Orders for electronic evidence in criminal matters (8110/18 and 15292/18) • Proposal for a DIRECTIVE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL laying down harmonised rules on the appointment of legal representatives for the purpose of gathering evidence in criminal proceedings (8115/18 and 7448/19) • COUNCIL DECISION authorising the European Commission to participate, on behalf of the European Union, in negotiations on a Second Additional Protocol to the Council of Europe Convention on Cybercrime (CETS No. 185)(10129/19 + ADD1) • COUNCIL DECISION authorising the opening of negotiations with a view to concluding an agreement between the European Union and the United States of America on cross-border access to electronic evidence for judicial cooperation in criminal matters (10128/19 + ADD1) 	
	<i>State of play/progress made</i> Negotiations on the proposed regulation and the proposed directive have been successfully completed with the Council reaching a general approach respectively in December 2018 and in March 2019. Further to this the Council agreed in June 2019 to supplement the general approach on the draft regulation with the revised text of the Annexes. No trilogues have been launched with the EP which is still working on its draft report (discussed on 11 November in the LIBE Committee) and expected to be finalised in early 2020. Therefore during the FI Presidency work has been concentrated on the ongoing international negotiations with the US on cross-border access to e-evidence and within the Council of Europe on the 2nd additional protocol to the Budapest Convention on cybercrime.	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i> Following the adoption of EP Position on the legislative package theHR Presidency will enter in trilogue to complete the legislative process. TheHR Presidency will continue to ensure the preparation of the two international negotiations in the COPEN (e-evidence) Working Party according to the respective procedure for negotiation as set out in the Council Decisions and negotiating directives and will closely follow the negotiations' developments.

42.	Encryption Responsible WP: HWP on Cyber Issues, CATS	
	<i>Main documents</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11th and 13th Progress report towards an effective and genuine Security Union 	
	<i>State of play/progress made</i> <p>Following the request by the 2016 December Council the COM presented a set of six operational and practical measures in the 11th Security Union Progress Report aimed at supporting the law enforcement and the judicial authorities in tackling the abuse of encryption in criminal investigations. In the latest update on the implementation progress of those measures was provided by the COM on several occasions both to the HWP on Cyber Issues and CATS. To support national LEA and judicial authorities and to work on a toolbox of legal and technical instrument a network of points of expertise from Member States has been set up: Several meetings of the network took place within to discuss the decryption and lawful interception and capabilities.</p> <p>Europol and Eurojust continue working on the observatory function to engage in a forward-looking analysis with respect to encryption. The first report of January 2019 provided an overview of the state of play for future decision-making. A second one is in process of preparation.</p> <p>In addition Europol has been provided with a one-off sum of EUR 5 million to set up decryption capability for data at rest, in collaboration with COM's JRC in Ispra. Work on this is steadily progressing and it is expected to be operational next year.</p> <p>Finally EUR 500 000 were provided for training in collaboration with CEPOL and ECTEG targeting law enforcement and judicial authorities with a view to ensuring that responsible officers are better prepared to deal with criminal abuse of encryption.</p>	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i> <p>Awaiting COM's decision and respective (if applicable) funding for the development of options to address the misuse of the end-to-end encryption by criminals in view of the political support provided at the CATS meeting of 21 November 2018.</p> <p>Further reporting on the implementation of the operational and practical measures to address the challenges related to use of encryption.</p>

<p>In view of the European Council Conclusions of June 2017, the Commission also looked at the possible solutions to end-to-end encryption in several expert meetings together with MSs'. Given the request for more technical information, the Commission organised jointly with Europol a technical meeting to discuss the details of the possible ways forward to address this issue that would not prohibit, limit or weaken end-to-end encryption. In the JHA Counsellors meeting that took place on 6 November 2018 and further in CATS on 21 November 2018 the COM and Europol provided additional information regarding a possible approach to allow law enforcement to deal with end-to-end encryption which was broadly supported by Member States. No further discussions or debriefs on the state-of-play took place in the Council after that.</p>	
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	<i>Anti money laundering, asset recovery, financial crime</i>	
43.	Directive Money laundering - criminal law Responsible WP: DROIPEN	
	<i>Main documents</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Directive (EU) 2018/1673 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on combating money laundering by criminal law (OJ L 284, 12.11.2018, p. 22–30) 	
	<i>State of play/progress made</i> Adopted	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i> Transposition period: 3 December 2020
44.	Mutual recognition of freezing and confiscation orders Responsible WP: COPEN	
	<i>Main documents</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulation (EU) 2018/1805 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 November 2018 on the mutual recognition of freezing orders and confiscation orders OJ L 303, 28.11.2018, p. 1) 	
	<i>State of play/progress made</i> The Regulation (2018/1805) was adopted on 14 November 2018.	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i> In accordance with Article 41, the Regulation shall apply from 19 December 2020.

45.	Monitor the implementation of mutual recognition instruments	
	Responsible WP: COPEN	
	<i>Main documents</i>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timeline (WK 1374/1/2018 REV 1). Action is also taken in specific fields, e.g. concerning the Directive on the European Investigation Order (9738/1/18 REV 1) 	
	<i>State of play/progress made</i>	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i>
	Continuous action, in collaboration with the Commission.	Continuous
46.	LEA access to financial information	
	Responsible WP: LEWP	
	<i>Main documents</i>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Directive (EU) 2019/1153 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 June 2019 laying down rules facilitating the use of financial and other information for the prevention, detection, investigation or prosecution of certain criminal offences 	
	<i>State of play/progress made</i>	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i>
	The Directive has been adopted and published in the OJ ³⁶ 20 June 2019.	Monitoring the implementation of the Directive 2019/1153. The HR Presidency intends to discuss specific aspects of the implementation of the Directive in the LEWP and COSI.

³⁶ Directive (EU) 2019/1153 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 June 2019 laying down rules facilitating the use of financial and other information for the prevention, detection, investigation or prosecution of certain criminal offences, and repealing Council Decision 2000/642/JHA, OJ L 186, 11.7.2019, p. 122–137

47.	Action plan on financial investigations Responsible WP: LEWP	
	<i>Main documents</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Conclusions and Action Plan on the way forward with regard to financial investigation - Council conclusions (9 June 2016) (10125/16) • Council Conclusions and Action Plan on the way forward with regard to financial investigation - mid-term progress report (11 December 2017) (13382/1/17 REV 1) • Operational Action Plan 'Criminal Finance - Money Laundering and Asset Recovery' (11683/19) (13673/2/18 REV 2) (13866/1/17 REV 1) 	
	<i>State of play/progress made</i> Mid-term progress report adopted in November 2017. One further implementation report discussed at the LEWP meeting on 21 May 2019 (9082/19).	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i> Further monitoring of the implementation as appropriate on the basis of new developments.

<i>Improving operational cooperation</i>			
48.	Europol Regulation Responsible WP: LEWP		
	<i>Main documents</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulation (EU) 2016/794 on the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Europol) (OJ L 135, 24.5.2016, p. 53–114) • Council conclusions on Europol's cooperation with Private Parties (14138/19) 		
	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"><i>State of play/progress made</i> Interest by MS to enlarge the mandate of EUROPOL. In December 2019, the Council adopted its Conclusions on Europol's cooperation with Private Parties³⁷ which are intended to feed in to the upcoming debate on a possible revision of the Regulation.</td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"><i>Envisaged follow-up</i> Possible revision.</td> </tr> </table>	<i>State of play/progress made</i> Interest by MS to enlarge the mandate of EUROPOL. In December 2019, the Council adopted its Conclusions on Europol's cooperation with Private Parties ³⁷ which are intended to feed in to the upcoming debate on a possible revision of the Regulation.	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i> Possible revision.
<i>State of play/progress made</i> Interest by MS to enlarge the mandate of EUROPOL. In December 2019, the Council adopted its Conclusions on Europol's cooperation with Private Parties ³⁷ which are intended to feed in to the upcoming debate on a possible revision of the Regulation.	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i> Possible revision.		
49.	European Border and Coast Guard Regulation Responsible WP: Frontiers		
	<i>Main documents</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulation (EU) 2019/1896 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 November 2019 on the European Border and Coast Guard and repealing Regulations (EU) No 1052/2013 and (EU) 2016/1624 		
	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"><i>State of play/progress made</i> In December 2019, the new Regulation on the European Border and Coast Guard entered into force, further strengthening the mandate of Frontex and the cooperation with Member States' authorities responsible for border management and return.</td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"><i>Envisaged follow-up</i> Full implementation of the new Regulation at EU and Member States' level, including the establishment of a European Border and Coast Guard Standing Corps ready for deployment as of 1 January 2021.</td> </tr> </table>	<i>State of play/progress made</i> In December 2019, the new Regulation on the European Border and Coast Guard entered into force, further strengthening the mandate of Frontex and the cooperation with Member States' authorities responsible for border management and return.	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i> Full implementation of the new Regulation at EU and Member States' level, including the establishment of a European Border and Coast Guard Standing Corps ready for deployment as of 1 January 2021.
<i>State of play/progress made</i> In December 2019, the new Regulation on the European Border and Coast Guard entered into force, further strengthening the mandate of Frontex and the cooperation with Member States' authorities responsible for border management and return.	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i> Full implementation of the new Regulation at EU and Member States' level, including the establishment of a European Border and Coast Guard Standing Corps ready for deployment as of 1 January 2021.		

³⁷ 14745/19.

50.	Eurojust Regulation Responsible WP: COPEN	
	<i>Main documents</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulation (EU) 2018/1727 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 November 2018 on the European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation (Eurojust), and replacing and repealing Council Decision 2002/187/JHA(OJ L 295, 21.11.2018, p. 138) 	
	<i>State of play/progress made</i> The Regulation (2018/1727) was adopted on 14 November 2018 and started to apply on 12 December 2019.	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i> The draft Rules of Procedure of Eurojust were approved by the College on 12 December 2019 and then by approved by the Council on 19 December. They were formally adopted by the Eurojust College in late December 2019 and will be published in the OJ. The Council adopted an implementation decision on a mechanism for compensation to the Member State whose national member is elected President of Eurojust.
51.	EPPO Regulation Responsible WP: COPEN	
	<i>Main documents</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Regulation (EU) 2017/1939 of 12 October 2017 implementing enhanced cooperation on the establishment of the European Public Prosecutor’s Office (‘the EPPO’) • OJ L 283, 31.10.2017, p. 1–71 	
	<i>State of play/progress made</i> Adopted	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i> Attention will be given by the FI Presidency to the setting up of the EPPO.

52.	Cooperation between customs and LEA Responsible WP: COSI, CCWP	
	<p><i>Main documents</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhancing customs contribution to Internal Security: follow up to the EPCC 2019 (13975/19) • Enhancing Customs contribution to internal security (7705/2/18 REV 2) <p>This document presents a number of areas where cooperation between customs authorities, police and other specialised law enforcement authorities, police and other specialised law enforcement authorities, as well as the interaction with relevant JHA agencies, e.g. Europol and Frontex, could be stepped up as a part of an integrated approach to security.</p>	
	<p><i>State of play/progress made</i></p> <p>At its meeting on 19 November 2019, COSI took stock of the extensive work done by the Presidency to enhance customs contribution to internal security and discussed possible ways forward to further strengthen such cooperation which is seen as crucial in the fight against organised crime.</p> <p>Delegations stressed the positive cooperation of customs with the EU POLICY CYCLE/EMPACT and encouraged deeper synergies with the Customs Action Plan. A roadmap was presented in CCWP on 26 November on customs integration in SOCTA.</p> <p>Some delegations also showed support to integrate customs in interoperability and encouraged better cooperation with JHA agencies</p>	<p><i>Envisaged follow-up</i></p> <p>CCWP will discuss how to implement the findings / recommendations included in the SE report on the customs contributions to EU SOCTA.</p> <p>The main objective would be to agree on a number of measures, their way of implementation and timeline (and probably financial aspects) which could be presented to COSI and, if possible, to the Council.</p>

53.	Cooperation between LEA and national security authorities Responsible WP: COSI, TWP	
	<i>Main documents</i>	
	<i>State of play/progress made</i> Regular debriefs at COSI and the JHA-Council by Europol. Information by CTG at JHA-Council in December 2019, under the FI Presidency.	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i> Continuous
54.	Cooperation between JHA agencies on CT Responsible WP: TWP, COSI	
	<i>Main documents</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> JHA agencies' role in CT (6146/18 + ADD 1 + ADD 1 EXT 1) and discussion papers 7871/18 and 8482/18 	
	<i>State of play/progress made</i> Discussions in TWP and COSI during the BG Presidency	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i>

55.	Expert groups and Networks related to the LEWP Responsible WP: LEWP	
	<i>Main documents</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guidelines for networks: 15572/17 • Overview of LEWP networks and their strategic objectives: 11055/18 	
	<i>State of play/progress made</i> Work on the Networks' strategic objectives is currently a regular topic in the LEWP. The LEWP continuously monitors the work of its networks and provides the necessary input and orientation. . In 2019, the Police expert network on missing persons (PENMP) has been affiliated to the LEWP, an the working party formalised its relationship with the European Network of Forensic Science Institutes (ENFSI) whose representatives will be invited to its meetings as necessary.	<i>Continuous follow-up</i>
56.	JHA Agencies' network Responsible WP: COSI	
	<i>Main documents</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final report on the JHA Agencies' cooperation for 2018 (6422/19) 	
	<i>State of play/progress made</i> Agencies' Directors meeting was held in November 2018. A report on the network activities for 2019 will be presented at COSI in 2019 by Europol.	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i> Europol chaired the agencies network in 2019.

57.	Europol agreements with third countries Responsible WP: LEWP	
	<i>Main documents</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9320/18 + ADD 1 • 9330/18 + ADD 1 • 9331/18 + ADD 1 • 9332/18 + ADD 1 • 9333/18 + ADD 1 • 9334/18 + ADD 1 • 9339/18 + ADD 1 • 9342/18 + ADD 1 	
	<i>State of play/progress made</i> Council Decisions, authorising the opening of negotiations with all eight of the third countries concerned, have been adopted together with their respective negotiating Directives. On 30 October 2019, the Commission issued Recommendation for a Council Decision authorising the opening of negotiations with New Zealand ³⁸ .	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i> The Commission has opened the negotiations with Turkey in 2018 and will do so with other countries identified as most urgent during 2019. The first meeting of JHA Counsellors (Europol) where the Commission will present the state of play should be scheduled during the HR Presidency. The negotiations regarding the agreement with New Zealand should start at the same moment.
	<i>Internal/External nexus of security</i>	

³⁸ 13892/19: Recommendation for a COUNCIL DECISION authorising the opening of negotiations for an agreement between the European Union and New Zealand on the exchange of personal data between the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Europol) and the New Zealand authorities competent for fighting serious crime and terrorism

58.	Strengthening the links between external and internal dimension of security Responsible WP: COSI / PSC	
	<p><i>Main documents</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conclusions of the Council and of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States, meeting within the Council, on the establishment of a Civilian CSDP Compact (14305/18) • Food for Thought and mini-concept on organized crime (9845/1/19 REV 1) • Cooperation between Civilian CSDP missions/operations and EU Policy Cycle/EMPACT actors (11964/19) • Crime Information Cell Pilot Project - Final Report (14312/18) • Proposal for a support to an organised crime coordination platform (OCCP) in Niger - non-paper (WK 10339/2019) 	
	<p><i>State of play/progress made</i></p> <p>Presentation of a proposal to OCCP in Niger.</p>	<p><i>Envisaged follow-up</i></p> <p>Follow up on the mini-concept development. Contribute to the establishment of OCCP in Niger.</p>
59.	Integrative Internal Security Governance (IISG) Responsible WP: COSI	
	<p><i>Main documents</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Conclusions on strengthening the EU internal security's external dimension in the Western Balkans including via the Integrative Internal Security Governance (IISG) - (8 December 2016) (15413/16) • IISG in the Western Balkans - draft Integrative Plan of Action for the Western Balkan Counter Serious Crime Initiative (WBCSCi) (5934/18) 	
	<p><i>State of play/progress made</i></p> <p>On 5 and 6 September 2018 the IISG Support Group organised in Belgrade a workshop with Drivers and Action Leaders who consider the Western Balkans to be an area of interest; the outcomes of the workshop are to be reported to COSI, including possible synergies, challenges faced and ideas which could be implemented in the EU Policy Cycle 2018-2021.</p>	<p><i>Envisaged follow-up</i></p> <p>The Third Board meeting of IISG, that took place on 26 February 2019 in Skopje, launched a process for a thorough revision of the IISG, which is steered by the Commission. The process of re-drafting the new Terms of Reference will be completed by the end of this year.</p>

3. Enhancing security at the external borders			
60.	<p>Entry/Exit System Regulation Responsible WP: Frontiers</p>		
	<p><i>Main documents</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regulation (EU) 2017/2226 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 November 2017 establishing an Entry/Exit System (EES) to register entry and exit data and refusal of entry data of third-country nationals crossing the external borders of the Member States and determining the conditions for access to the EES for law enforcement purposes, and amending the Convention implementing the Schengen Agreement and Regulations (EC) No 767/2008 and (EU) No 1077/2011 (OJ L 327, 9.12.2017, p. 20–82) 		
	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p><i>State of play/progress made</i></p> <p>On 20 November 2017 the Council adopted the Regulation for an entry-exit system and the regulation amending the Schengen border code in relation to the entry-exit system. This system will register identity data as well as entry, exit and refusal of entry information of third country nationals crossing the external borders of the Schengen area.</p> <p>On 10 May, eu-LISA signed the Framework Contract for the implementation and maintenance of the EES core system.</p> <p>eu-LISA, together with the member states, is already working on its development. The EES should be available to the Member States to commence necessary tests at the end of 2020 with following entry-into-operations in February 2022.</p> </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p><i>Envisaged follow-up</i></p> <p>Work has been pursued - mainly in the context of the Smart Borders Committee - in order to adopt all the necessary Implementing Decisions which will allow eu-LISA to proceed with the technical implementation of the system, including the relevant calls for tender.</p> <p>With a view to implementing the EES necessary steps are being taken in other relevant fields, such as the adaptations of the bilateral agreements that some Member States had stipulated with third countries allowing their citizens to prolong their stay in the Member State in question.</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p><i>State of play/progress made</i></p> <p>On 20 November 2017 the Council adopted the Regulation for an entry-exit system and the regulation amending the Schengen border code in relation to the entry-exit system. This system will register identity data as well as entry, exit and refusal of entry information of third country nationals crossing the external borders of the Schengen area.</p> <p>On 10 May, eu-LISA signed the Framework Contract for the implementation and maintenance of the EES core system.</p> <p>eu-LISA, together with the member states, is already working on its development. The EES should be available to the Member States to commence necessary tests at the end of 2020 with following entry-into-operations in February 2022.</p>	<p><i>Envisaged follow-up</i></p> <p>Work has been pursued - mainly in the context of the Smart Borders Committee - in order to adopt all the necessary Implementing Decisions which will allow eu-LISA to proceed with the technical implementation of the system, including the relevant calls for tender.</p> <p>With a view to implementing the EES necessary steps are being taken in other relevant fields, such as the adaptations of the bilateral agreements that some Member States had stipulated with third countries allowing their citizens to prolong their stay in the Member State in question.</p>
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61.	ETIAS Regulation and consequential amendments Responsible WP: Frontiers	
	<i>Main documents</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulations (EU) 2018/1240 and 2018/1241 have been published (OJ L 236, 19 September 2018, p.1) • Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the conditions for accessing the other EU information systems and amending Regulation (EU) 2018/1862 and Regulation (EU) yyyy/xxx [ECRIS-TCN] • Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the conditions for accessing other EU information systems for ETIAS purposes and amending Regulation (EU) 2018/1240, Regulation (EC) No 767/2008, Regulation (EU) 2017/2226 and Regulation (EU) 2018/1861 	
	<i>State of play/progress made</i> <p>COM tabled two proposals (5071/19 and 5072/19) on 8 January 2019 to include consequential amendments which are necessary to establish the interoperability of other EU information systems with ETIAS. These proposals amend, among others, Regulation (EU) 2018/1240 establishing ETIAS.</p> <p>In May 2019, COREPER granted a mandate for negotiations with the EP concerning the ETIAS consequential amendments (9229/19).</p> <p>The EP coordinators decided to request the EP Research Service to prepare a substitute impact assessment. The scope of the assessment is purpose limitation of ECRIS-TCN as well as fundamental rights assessment. This impact assessment was presented in LIBE on 9 December 2019. Despite the impact assessment, there has been no decision yet by the LIBE Committee to consider the draft report of the rapporteur in the committee.</p>	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i> <p>Negotiations will start with the EP as soon as it is ready, possibly in March 2020 with a view to reaching a swift political agreement on this file by June 2020.</p> <p>In parallel, work will be pursued - mainly in the context of the Smart Borders Committee - in order to adopt all the necessary implementing and delegated acts which will allow eu-LISA to proceed with the technical implementation of the system, including the relevant calls for tender.</p>

62.	Temporary reintroduction of controls at the internal borders Responsible WP: Frontiers	
	<i>Main documents</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EU) 2016/399 as regards the rules applicable to the temporary reintroduction of border control at internal borders 	
	<i>State of play/progress made</i> <p>The relevant proposal was submitted by the Commission on 27 September 2017. On 19 June 2018 Coreper agreed on a mandate to the Presidency for negotiations with the European Parliament. The main elements of the relevant compromise are linked with the total period allowed internal controls for the same reason (one year), as well as on the procedure for the reintroduction/prolongation(s) of internal border controls, aiming at trust-building elements in the application of such controls. The EP adopted its position in November 2018. Trilogue negotiations are currently on hold due to a blockage inside the Council.</p>	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i> <p>The Commission is currently exploring with Member States how to overcome the blockage.</p>

63.	False documents Responsible WP: Frontiers (False documents)	
	<i>Main documents</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication from the Commission to the EP and the Council - Action plan to strengthen the European response to travel document fraud (08 December 2016) (COM(2016) 790 final) • Council Conclusions on the Commission Action plan to strengthen the European response to travel document fraud (30 March 2017) (7696/17) • Council Conclusions on identity management (30 March 2017) (15862/17) • Report from the Commission to the EP and the Council on the implementation of the Action Plan to strengthen the EU response to travel document fraud (doc. 13265/18) • Questionnaire on the implementation of common minimum security standards related to the security of issuing processes (9231/18) • Questionnaire concerning the use of electronic security features on biometric travel documents including the chip (13269/19) • "Establishment of the horizontal expert group on document fraud" (EMPACT / EU crime priority "document fraud" (11528/1/17 REV 1) 	
	<i>State of play/progress made</i> On-going implementation of actions contained in the Action plan by Member States and the Commission	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i> In line with Commission's report on the implementation of the Action plan, Member States are reminded to swiftly implement the measures described in the Council conclusions of 27 March and 18 December 2017.

64.	Common risk indicators Responsible WP: Frontiers	
	<i>Main documents</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Frontex booklet was updated in January 2018 and it has been translated to all EU languages (except IE and MT) 	
	<i>State of play/progress made</i> Planned 2020 update.	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i> Update to be presented in 2020.
65.	Improving security features of ID cards Responsible WP: Frontiers	
	<i>Main documents</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regulation (EU) 2019/1157 on strengthening the security of identity cards of Union citizens and of residence documents issued to Union citizens and their family members exercising their right of free movement 	
	<i>State of play/progress made</i> The Regulation was published on 12 July 2019.	<i>Envisaged follow-up</i> Monitor the implementation, entry into force 2 August 2021.