

6140/98

LIMITE

ENFOPOL 28

**NOTE**

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from : Presidency

to : Terrorism Working Group

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Subject : **Information about crimes and offences committed out of racist or xenophobic motives**

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Members of the Terrorism Working Group are asked to let the UK Presidency have any comments on the attached draft report to K4 as soon as possible, and at the meeting on 9 March at the latest. The draft is based on the returns which the Presidency has received from ten Member States.

Please could those Member States who have not yet sent in their statistics on the most recent twelve month period for which figures are available for their country also do so as soon as possible. Those statistics should include a brief explanation of: how the data are collected; the reasons for any increases or decreases in the figures over those for the previous year; and how the type of incidents recorded is defined.

**DRAFT ENFOPOL NOTE FROM CHAIR OF TERRORISM WORKING GROUP TO CHAIR OF K4 COMMITTEE**

**VIOLENT INCIDENTS WITH A RACIST, XENOPHOBIC OR ANTI-SEMITIC MOTIVE**

1. On the basis of the decisions of the Justice and Home Affairs Council in 1994 (reference 11768/94 JAI 78), the Terrorism Working Group has drawn up its annual document recording statistics on xenophobic, racist or anti-semitic offences supplied by Member States. The document has been circulated to members of the Working Group.
  
2. The main points arising from the document are:
  - \* the total number of incidents with a racist, xenophobic or anti-semitic motive reported by Member States has [fallen by....%], compared with the 1997 document (ENFOPOL 107);
  
  - \* more countries submitted statistics this year than last year, so the real decrease is greater;
  
  - \* there has been a [decrease] in the number of violent incidents in most Member States, compared with the 1997 document; and
  
  - \* the total number of incidents in the European Union is set out in the attached table. Altogether, [587] incidents were recorded, including [five] murders and [347] incidents of grievous bodily harm/serious assault.
  
3. The data supplied by Member States are not homogenous. For example, there are differences in the definitions of assault used, in perceptions about which incidents are racist and in investigation procedures.

4. The Working Group has been considering possible ways of achieving greater consistency in the information recorded in the report. To that end, the Luxembourg Presidency prepared proposals on methodology. Some of the proposals present practical difficulties for some Member States. The Working Group will give further consideration to how these difficulties might be resolved.
  
5. The K4 Committee is invited to take note of this summary.

## EUROPEAN UNION

Violent incidents with a racist, xenophobic or anti-semitic motive in the European Union.

NATURE OF INCIDENT	NUMBER OF INCIDENTS	NUMBER OF VICTIMS
Murders committed	[5]	[5]
Murders attempted	[3]	
Attacks involving explosives/arson (Including attempted attacks)	[232]	
Grievous bodily harm/serious assaults	[347]	
<b>Total</b>	<b>[587]</b>	