

The 1st Annual Hague Programme Debate

*Creating a framework for discussing measurable annual
progress of The Hague Programme*



First Annual Debate on the progress of The Hague Programme
between policy makers, practitioners and academics
22 June 2005
Sofitel Luxemburg

To be organised by:



EUROPOL



Supported by the General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union

The First Annual Hague Programme Debate

Plenary Opening Session

Word of Welcome: *Mikhail Wladimiroff*, President of the International Criminal Law Network

Chair: *Hans Nilsson*, General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union

Opening: *Roland Genson*, Permanent Representation of Luxemburg to the EU

9.30 **and Luigi Soreca**, Head of Unit Justice and Home Affairs, European Commission

- Short Summary of The Hague Programme

- What do Member States and the EU expect from The Hague Programme?

- Posing of the questions for the break out sessions, short introduction of the discussion by the rapporteurs.

10.30 *Break*

Targets and Expectations

Judiciary Session

Law Enforcement Session

Chair: *Matti Joutsen*, Director of the International Affairs Unit, Ministry of Justice, Finland

Rapporteur: *Daniel Flore*, Advisor General Ministry of Justice, Belgium

11.00

Introductory Speech: *Roelof Jan Manschot*, Vice-President Eurojust

- Policy Makers
- Judiciary
- Data Experts

Chair: *Ulco van de Pol*, Former Dutch Data Protection Officer, Chairman of the Joint Supervisory Authority of the Schengen Information System

Rapporteur: *Christer Ekberg*, Deputy Chief National Criminal Police Sweden and Former Chairman of the Operational Committee of the Task Force on Organised Crime in the Baltic Region

Introductory Speech: *Jens Henrik Højbjerg*, Deputy Director Europol

- Policy Makers
- Law Enforcement
- Data Experts

12.30 *Lunch*, offered by the Luxemburg Presidency of the European Union

Implementation and Evaluation

Judiciary Session

Law Enforcement Session

Chair: *Romain Schintgen*, Judge at the European Court of Justice

Rapporteur: *Roland Miklau*, Ministry of Justice, Austria and future chairman of CATS during the Austrian Presidency of the EU

14.00

Chair: *Tom Driessen*, Director NCIPS

Rapporteur: *Gilles de Kerchove*, Director of the General Secretariat Justice and Home Affairs, Council of the European Union

15.30 *Break*

Plenary Concluding Session

16.00 **Chair:** *Peter Storr*, International Director Organised and International Crime Directorate, United Kingdom Home Office

17.30 Reception

The First Annual Hague Programme Debate

Purpose:

To evaluate, in an open and informal forum, the annual progress made by the EU and in the Member States towards implementing The Hague Programme and to determine bottlenecks in the process of developing the programme at the national level. The informal setting is stimulated through a mixture of policymakers, academics, justice and law enforcement.

Manner:

An annual forum to discuss *measurable* annual progress of the programme. The first meeting will focus on how we can measure judicial cooperation, police cooperation and exchange of information. Participants do NOT speak on behalf of their countries or institutions. Chatham House rules will apply. This will promote the frankness of discussion. People are selected for their expertise, vision and communicative skills.

Target audience:

National and international experts involved in the programme planning and implementation. Policy makers at ministerial level, representatives of law enforcement and justice, academics and data exchange experts.

Topics of Discussion:

Joint perception of the programme

- What do parties *want* from the programme?
- Visions of different countries on the interpretation and implementation of the programme
- What do we expect from which institutions under THP? How do we define their roles and responsibilities?
- How to interpret and implement certain European law rules on a national level?

Quality Measurement

- How do we measure the quality of the progress?
- Quality and nature of cooperation, the willingness to cooperate in law enforcement and judiciary.
- Law enforcement cooperation, the exchange of information
- Judicial cooperation, mutual recognition
- The New European Security Strategy, division of tasks and responsibilities, definition of roles
- The role of Europol and Eurojust and other bodies and networks

Quantitative Measurement

- Is it possible to make a measurement of the status at the start of the programme?
- How to order and interpret the information gathered by the monitor.
- How can you improve performances?
- What is the role of the Scoreboard?
- Targets and expectations
- Implementation, bottlenecks and evaluation

The Action Plan of the European Commission can be discussed in the debate.

The day will start with a plenary opening session that will focus on the following two questions:

1. What do the Member States and the European Union expect from The Hague Programme? In 1 year time and in 5 years time.
2. The measurement questions.

After that, the group will be split into two sessions; law enforcement cooperation and judicial cooperation. The topics mentioned above will be discussed in these two sessions.

Advisory Committee

Cyrille Fijnaut	Professor of International Criminal Law at the University of Tilburg
Tom Driessen	Director, Netherlands Centre for International Police Cooperation, The Netherlands
Jens Henrik Højbjerg	Deputy Director, Europol
Roelof Jan Manschot	Dutch Member of the Eurojust College, Chief Public Prosecutor
Hans Nilsson	Head of Division H, General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union
Marjorie Bonn	Senior Legal Adviser international criminal law and EU law. Directorate of Legislation, Netherlands Ministry of Justice
Roland Genson	Permanent Representation of Luxemburg at the EU