Basic information

1997/0911(CNS) CNS - Consultation procedure	Procedure completed
Judicial cooperation: creation of a European judicial network **Subject** 7.40 Judicial cooperation	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
LIBE Civil Liberties and Internal Affairs	BONTEMPI Rinaldo (PSE)	15/09/1997

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
JURI Legal Affairs, Citizens' Rights	NASSAUER Hartmut (PPE)	23/09/1997

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
General Affairs	2111	1998-06-29
Justice and Home Affairs (JHA)	2099	1998-05-28
Justice and Home Affairs (JHA)	2075	1998-03-19
Justice and Home Affairs (JHA)	2055	1997-12-04

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
09/07/1997	Legislative proposal published	09804/1997	Summary
15/09/1997	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
04/11/1997	Vote in committee		Summary
04/11/1997	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A4-0351/1997	
20/11/1997	Debate in Parliament		
19/03/1998	Debate in Council		
29/06/1998	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
29/06/1998	End of procedure in Parliament		
07/07/1998	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	1997/0911(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legal basis	Treaty on European Union (after Amsterdam) M K.3-p2b
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	LIBE/4/09236

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A4-0351/1997 OJ C 371 08.12.1997, p. 0003	04/11/1997	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T4-0572/1997 OJ C 371 08.12.1997, p. 0165-0201	20/11/1997	Summary

Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	09804/1997	09/07/1997	Summary

Additional information

Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act

Justice and Home Affairs act 1998/0428
OJ L 191 07.07.1998, p. 0004-0007

Judicial cooperation: creation of a European judicial network

1997/0911(CNS) - 09/07/1997 - Legislative proposal

OBJECTIVE: presentation of a joint action programme to create a European Judicial Network with the aim of establishing direct contact between judicial authorities and other authorities responsible for judicial cooperation in the Member States, to help combat forms of serious crime within the Union. SUBSTANCE: the European Judicial Network comprises judicial contact points between the Member States and is made up of the central authorities responsible for international judicial cooperation and the judicial authorities with responsibilities in this field, with the aim of combating certain forms of serious crime, such as organized crime, corruption and drug trafficking. To establish the network, each Member State designates one

or more contact points and notifies the Council and the other Member States of its decision. Liaison magistrates could be linked to the judicial network by each Member State, where they would have similar duties to those allocated to the contact points. To ensure that the network works efficiently, bilateral contacts between the contact points in the Member States have been established, as have periodic meetings. The network supplies a certain amount of permanently updated background information, by means of an appropriate telecommunications network. It will provide the following information: - full details of the contact points in each Member State, - a simplified list of the judicial authorities and a directory of the local authorities in each Member State, - legal information concerning the judicial and procedural systems in the 15 Member States, - the texts of relevant legal instruments. Technical arrangements are defined in the draft joint action determining the objectives and purpose of bilateral contact and periodic meetings. The primary objective is to strengthen cooperation and encourage the exchanges between the relevant bodies. In its initial phase, the network will meet every three months in Brussels (seat of the Council) or in the capitals of the Member States, and then on an ad hoc basis as its members felt the need and at the invitation of the Presidency. The European Judicial Network will be evaluated one year after its implementation, and then once every three years.

Judicial cooperation: creation of a European judicial network

1997/0911(CNS) - 20/11/1997 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

In adopting the report by Mr Rinaldo BONTEMPI (PSE, I), the European Parliament has approved the proposal for a joint action, subject to amendments designed to strengthen the proposed judicial network. It calls for: - the network to combat all forms of serious crime: organized crime, corruption, drug trafficking; - network contact points to have extensive practical experience in combating organized crime and to be fully conversant with the constitutional provisions, legal traditions and legal procedures of the Member States; - Parliament to be informed of the composition of the judicial network (including alternates); - the network to respect the rights and fundamental freedoms of the individual; - multilateral links between the contact points and the circulation of information to be facilitated. Parliament has also amended the timetable and venues for network meetings and added the list of cases concluded or pending, wherever there is evidence of a link, to the types of information which must be permanently accessible through the network. Finally, it asks to be kept informed, through an annual assessment report, about the operation of the network and calls on the Council to ensure there is no overlapping between the responsibilities allocated under joint actions and those assigned to Europol.