Basic information

2000/0304(CNS) CNS - Consultation procedure Decision	Procedure completed
Fight against organised crime: financial support, programme for the prevention, Hippocrates **Subject** 7.30.30 Action to combat crime	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
LIBE Citizens' Freedoms and Rights, Justice and Home Affairs	KESSLER Margot (PSE)	16/01/2001

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
Justice and Home Affairs (JHA)	2337	2001-03-15
Transport, Telecommunications and Energy	2364	2001-06-28

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
Justice and Consumers	

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
29/11/2000	Legislative proposal published	COM(2000)0786	Summary
15/01/2001	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
20/03/2001	Vote in committee		
20/03/2001	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A5-0094/2001	
04/04/2001	Debate in Parliament		
05/04/2001	Decision by Parliament	T5-0197/2001	Summary
28/06/2001	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
28/06/2001	End of procedure in Parliament		
07/07/2001	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2000/0304(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Decision
Legal basis	Treaty on European Union (after Amsterdam) M 034-p2
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A5-0094/2001	20/03/2001	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T5-0197/2001 OJ C 021 24.01.2002, p. 0257-0329 E	05/04/2001	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	COM(2000)0786 OJ C 096 27.03.2001, p. 0244 E	29/11/2000	Summary
Follow-up document	SEC(2005)0524	15/04/2005	Summary
Follow-up document	SEC(2006)0333	07/03/2006	Summary
Follow-up document	SEC(2006)1798	20/12/2006	Summary

Other institutions and bodies

Institution/body	Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
EESC	Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	CES0716/2001 OJ C 221 07.08.2001, p. 0103	30/05/2001	
CofR	Committee of the Regions: opinion	CDR0100/2001 OJ C 357 14.12.2001, p. 0061	13/06/2001	

Additional information

Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act

Decision 2001/0515
OJ L 186 07.07.2001, p. 0011

Summary

Fight against organised crime: financial support, programme for the prevention, Hippocrates

2000/0304(CNS) - 15/03/2001

The Council reached an agreement on a European crime prevention policy and its constituent elements, including a provisional agreement - pending examination of the European Parliament opinion - on the European crime prevention network, the main vehicle of the European crime prevention policy, and confirmed a provisional agreement on the substantive content of a Commission proposal for a Council decision establishing a programme of incentives and exchanges, training and co-operation for the prevention of crime (Hippocrates).

Fight against organised crime: financial support, programme for the prevention, Hippocrates

2000/0304(CNS) - 07/03/2006

This Commission staff working document consists of a report on the ex post evaluation of Grotius II, Oisin II, Stop II, Falcone and Hippokrates Programmes and the interim evaluation of the AGIS Programme.

To recall, since January 2003, the five former Programmes established under Title VI (Grotius, Oisin, Stop, Falcone and Hippokrates), that ran from 1996 until 2002, were brought together into a single Programme - the AGIS Framework Programme (2003-2007).

The main objectives of this document are as follows:

- to present a summary of the main results and conclusions of this evaluation;
- to assess the main recommendations;
- to present concrete proposals for the next programming period and, notably, to draw conclusions relevant to the implementation of the Programmes that are to replace the AGIS Programme.

The Commission has already presented to the Council and the European Parliament proposals for Programmes to replace the AGIS Programme (the Security Programme and, to some extent, the Justice Programme) in the next programming period. It must be underlined that the recommendations both general and specific that are discussed in this paper can be fully implemented under the new legal framework.

As regards the former Title VI Programmes, the ex post evaluation was centred on the last 2 years of implementation – 2001 and 2002. The evaluation exercise therefore focused on STOP II, Oisin II and Grotius II, which are the so-called second generation of Programmes, as well as in Hippokrates (2001/2002) and Falcone (2001/2002).

In the case of the interim evaluation of the AGIS Programme, the analysis focused on the 2 first years of implementation – 2003 and 2004**,** where a majority of grant-aided projects was still ongoing.

In geographical terms, the study covered all the countries that participated in the Programme - Member States (then 15), candidate countries (now the new 10 Member States) and third countries.

The main overall conclusions of the evaluation are as follows:

- the former Title VI programmes as well as the AGIS programme have been useful programmes that have made a very positive contribution to increasing knowledge, understanding and trust among target groups, which are crucial factors for increasing cross-national co-operation in the area, and ultimately to creating an area of justice, freedom and security;
- all programmes have led to the implementation of effective projects that in most cases would not have existed without the financial support of the programmes, or would have existed in a different format, where less focus would have been on the transnational aspects. While most stakeholders recognise the need and the benefits arising from transnational co-operation projects, there are few alternative funding opportunities that allow similar projects to take place;
- the transnational element is strong in most of the projects that have been implemented. It has, however, been more predominant or better integrated under the AGIS programme, as compared to the former Title VI programmes. The main explanation for this could be the strengthened requirements concerning partnerships;
- the programmes have led to the creation and strengthening of many formal and informal networks and this can be said to be one of their main merits. For the former Title VI programmes, it can be concluded that sustainable benefits do arise from these networks and that networks are generally found to be useful beyond the scope and lifetime of projects.
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the programmes were generally not found to be demand driven, in the sense that policy priorities and objectives do not determine the portfolio of projects. Objectives are broad and not clearly prioritised, allowing applicants to claim that most of their ideas match the programme objectives. Rather than being EU demand driven, most projects are thus supply driven, resulting from the specific interest of possible promoters;

- related to the previous point, Member States (programme committees) generally play a limited role in the formulation of specific objectives for annual work programmes, despite a specific AGIS Committee meeting every year being devoted to an examination of the annual work programme. Instead, the role of Member States' representatives in the committees is mainly found to be as advocates for national interests in the selection of particular projects.

The report concludes that the aim of the external evaluation and, even more so, of this paper is to feed into the implementation of the remainder of the AGIS Programme as well as the new programmes after 2006. The proposals from the Commission for new programmes from 2007 are compatible with the conclusions and recommendations of this document, as the former set quite a broad legislative framework and the latter pertain more to the policy use of the programmes and their implementation mechanisms.

As concerns the specific recommendations on implementing mechanisms, there is no doubt that they have to be applied during the next programming period.

Furthermore, the selection criteria for objectives and priority areas for the funding programmes need to be defined and agreed by all involved in the management of the programme. It is clear that founding documents, such as the Hague Programme and Action Plan, provide commonly agreed overall political objectives, which then need to be translated into concrete milestones for programme implementation. It is suggested that this is an iterative process between the Commission and the relevant management structures of the programmes, once views from relevant stakeholders have been collected and integrated.

In conclusion, all-embracing programmes as they currently exist would give way to much more specific ones, with outcomes, results and eventually impacts being more systematically disseminated and monitored.

Fight against organised crime: financial support, programme for the prevention, Hippocrates

2000/0304(CNS) - 28/06/2001 - Final act

PURPOSE : to establish a programme of incentives and exchanges, training and co-operation for the prevention of crime (Hippocrates). COMMUNITY MEASURE : Council Decision 2001/515/JHA establishing a programme of incentives and exchanges, training and co-operation for the prevention of crime (Hippocrates). CONTENT : this Decision established a programme of co- operation in the prevention of crime, to be known as "Hippocrates". The programme is established for a period of two years running from 1 January 2001 to 31 December 2002. The programme shall contribute to the general objective of providing citizens with a high level of protection in an area of freedom, security and justice. Within this framework, it is intended to encourage cooperation between all the public and private organisations in the Member States involved in the prevention of crime, whether or not organised. The applicant counties may participate in the projects in order to familiarise themselves with the Union acquis in this area and help them prepare for accession. The programme shall comprise of the following types of activities: - training; - exchanges and placements; - studies and research; - meetings adn seminars; - dissemination of the results obtained within the framework of the programme. With regard the financing of the programmes, the financial reference amount for the implementation of this programme for the period of 2001 to 2002 shall be EUR 2 million. As regards the implementation of the the programmes the Commission shall be responsible for the management and implementation of the programme, in cooperation with the Member States. The Commission shall be assisted by a Committee to be known as the "Hippocrates Committee". Lastly, the Commission shall undertake each year an evaluation of the actions carried out in implementing the programme for the previous year. Each year the Commission shall report to the European Parliament and the COuncil on the implementation of the programme. The first report shall be presented before 31 July 2002. ENTRY INTO FORCE : this Decision shall take effect from 07/07/2001. It shall apply until 31 December 2002.

Fight against organised crime: financial support, programme for the prevention, Hippocrates

2000/0304(CNS) - 29/11/2000 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE : to establish a programme of incentives and exchanges, training and cooperation for the prevention of crime (Hippocrates). CONTENT : the EU has been working on crime prevention since 1996. It has become aware of the limits to the traditional enforcement measures of judicial systems and developed supplementary crime prevention initiatives, albeit in differing degrees. The aim of the present proposal is to support the European crime-prevention strategy established as an objective of the European Union by Article 29 of the Treaty on European Union. It is one of the means of achieving an area of freedom, security and justice in the Union via a closer and more effective cooperation in crime prevention. It follows up points 41 and 42 of the conclusions of the Tampere European Council of 15-16 October 1999, which call for closer cooperation in the area and for study of the possibility of a programme financed by the Community. The Commission has also presented a general communication, concluding among other things that it was necessary to establish a financial instrument to support the European strategy it proposed. The purpose of this instrument, known as the "Hippocrates Programme", is to encourage cooperation between all the public and private organisations in the Member States involved in preventing crime of all kinds, whether organised or not. The programme is widely accessible to all partners concerned on a multidisciplinary basis. The programme is to co-finance training, programmes of exchanges and placements, the organisation of meetings and seminars, studies and research and

the dissemination of the results obtained under the programme. The programme is envisaged for a period of two years (2001-02). This is in order to study the feasibility of merging the existing programmes (Grotius, Oisin and Stop) into a single programme governed by Titile VI of the EU Treaty, into which Hippocrates will then also be incorporated.

Fight against organised crime: financial support, programme for the prevention, Hippocrates

2000/0304(CNS) - 20/12/2006 - Follow-up document

This Commission Staff Working Document presents annual report for 2005 on the activities of the European Forum for the prevention of organised crime. The paper gives details of the workshops held in 2005 and provides an overview of debates in specific fields.

These are the following:

- **fraud and counterfeiting of non-cash means of payments**: a majority of Member States reported that the investigation of non-cash payment fraud committed on-line might be handled by the computer crime or high tech crime unit;
- **prevention of terrorist financing through the non-profit sector**: meetings gave further consideration to the EU implementation of FATF Special Recommendation VIII regarding non-profit organisations, with special regard to mechanisms addressing the vulnerability of non-profit organisations to terrorist financing;
- **European policy on the use of Passenger Name Records**: many Member States indicated that there was an urgent need for common rules in the area. The main purposes should be the fight against terrorism, and organised crime, plus border controls. It is agreed that there is no need for a central point at EU-level but the creation of a network at EU-level of specialist teams dealing with PNR data could be considered;
- **electronic evidence:** the exchange of views concerned the legal framework for capturing and exchanging data which could be used as electronic evidence, the role of the judicial authorities during the collection of the data and assessment of electronic evidence at a trial. A further issue related to the safeguards which should be adopted to protect the accused person's rights and personal data;
- **investigative tools:** the Commission put forward the possibility of setting up a central platform in order to address Member States' needs, share problems and technical solutions and participate in development projects. This structure would have a new horizontal and political approach, different from the existing structures;
- **tackling human trafficking**: key themes to emerge included the importance of addressing root causes of trafficking and further developing collaboration between government and civil society;
- **public private partnership**: there was broad agreement that Public Private Partnerships can strengthen cooperation between regulators, providers and users of services in order to enhance security;
- **new financial programme "Prevention of and fight against crime" (2007-2013**). The views expressed were considered as part of an ex-ante evaluation of the new financial instrument.

Fight against organised crime: financial support, programme for the prevention, Hippocrates

2000/0304(CNS) - 05/04/2001 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament voted to endorse the report by Mrs Margot KESSLER (PES, D) concerning a Commission proposal to establish a programme of incentives and exchanges, training and cooperation for the prevention of crime - Hippocrates. However, the Parliament is calling for the incorporation of this programme into a single framework programme which will also include the Grotius, Stop and Oisin programmes.

Fight against organised crime: financial support, programme for the prevention, Hippocrates

2000/0304(CNS) - 15/04/2005 - Follow-up document

This is a Commission prepared "Annual Report and Work-plan on the European Forum for the Prevention of Organised Crime 2004". The Report notes that this is the fourth year of the Forum's existence. Since then it has fulfilled its purpose as a European networking tool for those involved in crime prevention. The Forum has continued to act as a useful platform for an open debate on, and analysis of, matters relating to organised crime amongst a wide range of stakeholders at a European, national, regional and local level. In 2004 the Forum held workshops on Crime Statistics, Data Protection and Data Retention, Fiscal Fraud and Financial Crime, Cultural Goods, Trafficking in Human Beings, Terrorism and Organised Crime and Counterfeiting and Piracy. Similar workshops are planned for 2005 with topics up for discussion including, the export/import of firearms, Member State meeting on the Western Balkans, witness protection and terrorism financing using the non-profit sector.