Council of the European Union

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NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	National Parliaments
Subject:	Council Implementing Decision setting out a recommendation on addressing the deficiencies identified in the 2019 evaluation of Slovenia on the application of the Schengen acquis in the field of police cooperation

In accordance with Article 15(3) of Council Regulation 1053/2013 of 7 October 2013, establishing an evaluation and monitoring mechanism to verify the application of the Schengen acquis and repealing the Decision of the Executive Committee of 16 September 1998 setting up a Standing Committee on the evaluation and implementation of Schengen, the Council hereby transmits to national Parliaments the Council Implementing Decision setting out a Recommendation on addressing the deficiencies identified in the 2019 evaluation of Slovenia on the application of the Schengen acquis in the field of police cooperation[1].

[1] Available in all official languages of the European Union on the Council public register, doc. 7980/21

Council Implementing Decision setting out a

RECOMMENDATION

on addressing the deficiencies identified in the 2019 evaluation of Slovenia on the application of the Schengen acquis in the field of police cooperation

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EU) No 1053/2013 of 7 October 2013 establishing an evaluation and monitoring mechanism to verify the application of the Schengen acquis and repealing the Decision of the Executive Committee of 16 September 1998 setting up a Standing Committee on the evaluation and implementation of Schengen[2], and in particular Article 15 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Whereas:

(1) The purpose of this decision is to recommend to Slovenia remedial actions to address deficiencies identified during the Schengen evaluation in the field of police cooperation carried out in 2019. Following the evaluation, a report covering the findings and assessments, listing best practices and deficiencies identified during the evaluation was adopted by Commission Implementing Decision C(2020) 360.

(2) In light of the importance of complying with the Schengen acquis, priority should be given to implementing recommendations 1 to 6.

[2] OJ L 295, 6.11.2013, p. 27.

(3) This Decision should be transmitted to the European Parliament and to the Parliaments of the Member States. Within six months of its adoption, Slovenia should, pursuant to Article 16(8) of Regulation (EU) No 1053/2013, provide the Commission with an assessment of the improvements and with a description of required actions,

RECOMMENDS:

that Slovenia should:

1. improve transliteration and fuzzy logic searches as well as the user-friendliness of FIO[3] and OKCP[4];

2. improve the effectiveness of the mobile devices, the network coverage over the entire country and increase the number of mobile devices at the disposal of police officers;

3. swiftly conclude a new bilateral agreement with Croatia, and in particular address the issue of cross-border operations, such as hot pursuits and cross-border surveillance;

4. pursue the renegotiation of its current police cooperation bilateral agreement with Austria;

5. implement the Council Decision 2008/633/JHA of 23 June 2008 concerning access for consultation of the Visa Information System (VIS) by designated authorities of Member States and by Europol for the purposes of the prevention, detection and investigation of terrorist offences and of other serious criminal offences[5];

6. ensure the automated crosschecking of data from incoming requests against the International Police Cooperation Department workflow system and the national databases;

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3 National police application for checking persons and objects.

4 Web application able to carry out searches in six national databases, INTERPOL and the Schengen Information System.

5 Council Decision 2008/633/JHA of 23 June 2008, OJ L 218, 13.8.2008, p. 129–136, https://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2008:218:0129:0136:EN:PDF

7. ensure sufficient ressources of the International Police Cooperation Department front desk with a view to effectively manage its workload;

8. provide trainings on all international police cooperation tools for the International Police Cooperation Department staff performing front desk duties;

9. provide training to the criminal police investigators (practitioners) on legislation and procedures regarding cross-border operations;

10. improve the collection of relevant data related to cross-border operations and hot pursuits with a view to establish an accurate national picture;

11. raise awareness on the benefit of the Council Framework Decision 2006/960/JHA of 18 December 2006 (so-called Swedish Framework Decision)[6].

Done at Brussels,

For the Council
The President

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[6] Council Framework Decision 2006/960/JHA of 18 December 2006 on simplifying the exchange of information and intelligence between law enforcement authorities of the Member States of the European Union, OJ L 386, 29.12.2006, p. 89–100, https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex:32006F0960