



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 7 April 2009**

**8529/09**

**JUSTCIV 79**

**COVER NOTE**

---

from : Mr Bobby McDonagh, Permanent Representative of Ireland  
dated 3 April 2009  
to : Mr Jiří Pospíšil, President of the Council of the European Union  
Subject : Proposed Community Regulations concerning conclusion of bilateral agreements  
between Member States and third countries in certain civil law matters  
- Opt-in Ireland

---

Dear President

I refer to the Fourth Protocol to the Treaty of Amsterdam, in particular to Article 3 thereof.

I hereby notify the President of the Council that Ireland wishes to take part in the adoption and application of the following proposed measures:

- (i) Council Regulation establishing a procedure for the negotiation and conclusion of bilateral agreements between Member States and third countries concerning sectoral matters and covering jurisdiction, recognition and enforcement of judgments and decisions in matrimonial matters, parental responsibility and maintenance obligations, and applicable law in matters relating to maintenance obligations, and

(ii) Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a procedure for the negotiation and conclusion of bilateral agreements between Member States and third countries concerning sectoral matters and covering applicable law in contractual and non-contractual obligations

Yours sincerely

(signed) Bobby McDonagh

---