



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 15 October 2013  
(OR. en)**

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**"I/A" ITEM NOTE**

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From: General Secretariat of the Council

To: Permanent Representatives Committee/Council

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Subject: Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the European Border Surveillance System (EUROSUR) **(first reading)**

- Adoption of the legislative act (LA + S)
- = Statements

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**Statement by Spain**

Spain endorses the establishment of a European Border Surveillance System (EUROSUR) for the exchange of information and cooperation between the Member States and FRONTEX for the purpose of detecting, preventing and combating illegal immigration and cross-border crime, contributing to ensuring the protection, and saving the lives, of migrants.

Since 2008, Spain has been working on the pilot project designed to improve situational awareness and increase reaction capability at its external borders.

Nevertheless, Spain cannot vote in favour of the text of the Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the European Border Surveillance System (PE-CONS 56/13) since, as that Regulation constitutes a development of Schengen, its Article 19 and recital 16 concerning the participation of Ireland and the United Kingdom contravene Protocol No 19 on the Schengen acquis integrated into the framework of the European Union.

### **Statement by Greece**

Greece is working since 2008 in the pilot project of EUROSUR and has always contributed constructively during the negotiations in the Council, supporting the establishment of a European border surveillance system. Greece will continue its constructive approach during the operational phase of the system, as well.

From the beginning of the discussion, Greece has expressed its concerns regarding Art. 10(2) c) of the text, that indirectly refers to the Schengen Evaluation Mechanism, causes duplication and conflicts of competence between different legislative texts. Nevertheless, Greece is convinced that the operational phase of the system is a matter of priority. At the same time it will allow Member States to share operational information, to improve cooperation and to contribute to the protection and saving of lives of migrants. Thus Greece votes in favour of this Regulation.

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