

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

Brussels, 14 March 2014

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NOTE

from:	General Secretariat of the Council
to:	Delegations
Subject:	Summary of the meeting of the Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs
	Committee of the European Parliament, held in Strasbourg on 10 March 2014

LIBE confirming Budapest as CEPOL seat and the outcome of negotiations with the Council on intra-corporate transfer of third-country nationals Short discussions on EASO arrangements, incident in Ceuta and written replies from E. Snowden.

The meeting was chaired by Mr Aguilar (S&D, ES).

Items 1, and 3 on the agenda

Adoption of the agenda; minutes and Chair's announcements

The agenda was adopted with the following changes: short discussion on Snowden written replies (at the request of GUE, Greens, ALDE and S&D). Approval of minutes of meeting of: 21-24 October 2013, 14 November 2013, 5 December 2013, 16-17 December 2013, 9 January 2014, 12-13 February 2014, 10 March 2014.

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Items 4 on the agenda

Arrangement with the Swiss Confederation on the modalities of its participation in the **European Asylum Support Office**

2013/0422(NLE)

PR – PE527.977v01-00 Rapporteur: Roberta Metsola (PPE)

Responsible: LIBE -

Opinions: AFET – Decision: no opinion

> DEVE – Decision: no opinion BUDG – Decision: no opinion

Ms Metsola pointed out that the recent Swiss referendum on immigration could potentially have implications for the cooperation also with the EASO. Ms Guillaume (S&D, FR) and Ms Sargentini (Greens, NL) were critical of the possibility that Swiss authorities would limit the number of people that could have access to international protection.

The Commission representative informed LIBE that the Commission was still reflecting on the outcome and that it was important to wait also to see what the Swiss side was proposing. A representative of the Mission of Switzerland to the EU, Mr Frei, stressed that after the referendum Switzerland would introduce new constitutional rules on immigration in full transparency. Switzerland was going to respect fully its international obligations and this would have no impact on the Schengen/Dublin systems cooperation.

Items 5 on the agenda

Exchange of views with Commission and Swiss Authorities on the impact of the outcome of the Swiss Referendum on the Arrangement

The Commission representative regretted the loss of migrants lives off the Spanish coast of Ceuta on 6 February 2014 and pointed out that there was an ongoing judicial inquiry. The Commission was hoping for a swift conclusion and that the results would be shared with the Commission. Mr Diaz De Mera (EPP, ES) made a passionate speech defending the work of the Guardia Civil, which prompted several comments from GUE and the Greens. They argued that those in need of international protection should be given the possibility to apply for it. Mr Claeys (NI, BE) praised the work of the police at the external borders of the EU. In his view the only other alternative was reinstating internal border controls.

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Electronic vote

Items 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 on the agenda

New psychoactive substances

***I 2013/0305(COD)

Rapporteur: Jacek Protasiewicz (PPE) PR – PE519.611v01-00 AM – PE519.808v01-00

Responsible: LIBE –

Opinions: ENVI – Elena Oana Antonescu (PPE) AD – PE524.592v02-00

AM - PE526.242v01-00

Adoption of draft report as amended was adopted with 51 votes in favour (4 votes against and no abstention).

Minimum provisions on the constituent elements of criminal acts and penalties in the field of illicit drug trafficking, as regards the definition of the term 'drug'

***I 2013/0304(COD)

Rapporteur: Teresa Jiménez-Becerril Barrio (PPE) PR – PE519.605v01-00

AM – PE519.807v01-00

Responsible: LIBE –

Opinions: ENVI – Bogusław Sonik (PPE) AD – PE524.584v02-00

AM – PE526.243v01-00

Adoption of draft report as amended was adopted with 52 votes in favour (4 votes against and no abstention).

Amendment to Decision 2005/681/JHA establishing the European Police College (CEPOL)

***I 2013/0812(COD)

Rapporteur: Kinga Gál (PPE) RR – PE526.113v02-00 AM – PE528.005v01-00

Responsible: LIBE –

Opinions: BUDG – Decision: no opinion

The results of negotiations pursuant to Rule 70(5) were confirmed with 35 votes in favour (17 votes against and 2 abstentions).

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Conditions of entry and residence of third-country nationals in the framework of an intracorporate transfer

***I 2010/0209(COD)

Rapporteur: Salvatore Iacolino (PPE) PR – PE464.961v01-00 AM – PE467.241v01-00

DT - PE462.746v01-00

Responsible: LIBE* –

Opinions: EMPL* – Liisa Jaakonsaari (S&D) AD – PE464.975v04-00

AM - PE467.306v01-00

JURI (AL) – Jiří Maštálka (GUE/NGL) AL – PE473.852v01-00

FEMM – Decision: no opinion

The compromise on the file was confirmed by LIBE with 44 votes in favour, 8 votes against and 1 abstention. Chair Aguilar announced that EMPL Committee (also responsible for the file under article 50) had rejected it earlier the same evening with 21 votes against and 13 in favour (2 abstentions). S&D coordinator, Mr Moraes said that there was full support for the LIBE aspects of the report; however he could not prejudge the outcome of the Plenary vote regarding EMPL aspects.

*** End of electronic vote ***

Items 10 on the agenda

Written replies from Edward Snowden

Rapporteur Moraes thanked Mr Snowden for contributing to the inquiry and regretted that an interactive session was not possible. Mr Voss was of the view that these replies had not added new information and there was therefore no need to change the text of the report. Ms In t Veld (ALDE, NL) and Albrecht (Greens, DE) stressed the importance of better controls over the functioning of national security agencies. The Greens called on ALDE and S&D to support their amendment recognizing that Snowden was a genuine whistle-blower.

Next meeting(s)

- 19 March 2014, 9.00 12.30 and 15.00 18.30 (Brussels)
- 20 March 2014, 9.00 12.30

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