



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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From: General Secretariat of the Council

To: Permanent Representatives Committee/Council

Subject: Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing, as part of the Internal Security Fund, the instrument for financial support for police cooperation, preventing and combating crime, and crisis management (**first reading**)

- Adoption of the legislative act (**LA + S**)

= Statement

Joint statement by Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Finland, Greece, Hungary, Poland and Slovak Republic

We welcome the establishment of the instrument for financial support for police cooperation, preventing and combating crime, and crisis management and we consider that this instrument constitutes a solid base for implementation of the Multiannual Financial Framework targeting police (law enforcement related) tasks and duties.

However we would like to express our disappointment regarding the allocation key for the resources for eligible actions in the Member States with regard to the factor related to the number of passengers and the tons of cargo processed through their international air and sea ports [Article 10.1. (c)].

We stress that tasks and duties of the Member States linked to ensuring high-level of internal security stem not only from the fight against terrorist threats but also from the fact that criminality of various nature enters to the European Union not only through sea and airports and, but to large and measurable extent, via land borders, notably land border crossing points. In our opinion, the Regulation does not justify the emphasis laid on seaports and airports.. Therefore, we strongly argued for having land border crossing points included into the allocation criteria alongside sea and airports.

We hold the view that the omission of land border crossing points from the text results in a discriminatory legislation. We also hold the view that Recital (14) in connection with Annex III does not remedy the negative discrimination.

We are positive that in order to contribute to the EU's Internal Security the MFF ISF Police should have taken into account the genuine features of police (law enforcement) fieldwork in and place all border crossing points to equal footing.