



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**



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CEPOL moving to Budapest

The Council adopted today¹ an initiative of several member states² for a regulation amending Decision 2005/681/JHA establishing the European Police College (CEPOL) ([*PE-CONS 59/14*](#)).

Today's decision allows CEPOL to move its seat from Bramshill (United Kingdom) to Budapest (Hungary) as from September 2014, following the information from the United Kingdom that it could no longer host CEPOL.

Background

The European Police College (CEPOL) is a European Union Agency, established in 2005. CEPOL's mission is to bring together senior police officers from police forces in Europe - essentially to support the development of a network - and encourage cross-border cooperation in the fight against crime, public security and law and order by organising training activities and research findings.

¹ At a meeting of the Economic and Financial Affairs Council.

² Belgium, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Germany, Estonia, Greece, Spain, France, Croatia, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Finland and Sweden

P R E S S

Following the UK decision to no longer host CEPOL as from March 2014 on its current premises in Bramshill (UK), the Council had to find a new location. Seven member states (Ireland, Greece, Spain, Italy, Hungary, the Netherlands and Finland) submitted applications to host CEPOL. After having considered the applications, on 8 October 2013, the member states reached a common accord that as soon as CEPOL needs to move out from Bramshill, it should be hosted in Budapest (Hungary).

In order for CEPOL to relocate to a new seat, Article 4 of the CEPOL decision (which expressly says that CEPOL seat is in Bramshill) needed to be amended. Against this background a member states' initiative for a regulation amending the existing decision on CEPOL was submitted to the Council on 13 November 2013 ([17043/13](#) + [17043/13 ADD1](#) + [17043/13 ADD2](#)) and was forwarded to the European Parliament and the national Parliaments. This will enable CEPOL to relocate to Budapest as from September 2014, the date until which CEPOL's lease at Bramshill was extended by the UK, as soon as the logistical and practical issues relating to the relocation are solved.

On 3 March the Council held a policy debate on the future of CEPOL. Member states agreed on the need to update the existing decision in the light of the Treaties post-Lisbon and invited the Commission to present a legislative proposal on the new legal basis for CEPOL as soon as possible. The Commission confirmed its willingness to present such a legislative proposal.
