

Brussels, 20 November 2015 (OR. en)

14206/15

EJUSTICE 149 FREMP 263 DAPIX 210 JURINFO 39 INF 193

"I/A" ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
No. prev. doc.:	13667/15, 11786/1/15 REV 1, 12883/15
Subject:	Report of the Working Party on e-Law (e-Justice) to Coreper/Council
	- Adoption

I. Introduction

1. The Working Party on e-Law (e-Justice) has examined the results of the work carried out by the expert group on open data and the expert group on fundamental rights, which were submitted to the Working Party on e-Law (e-Justice) at its meetings on 20 October and 13 November 2015. The Working Party on e-Law (e-Justice) agreed to submit these results for the endorsement by the Coreper/Council as set out below.

II. Results of the work of the expert groups

- a) Expert group on open data
- 2. The expert group on open data was set up according to the Multiannual European e-Justice Action Plan 2014-2018, and following the discussions in the Working Party on e-Law (e-Justice) on 17 March and 11 May 2015. The Working Party agreed on its initial task on the basis of a mandate as described in 6992/15: "The expert group on open data should start with making an inventory on which data within the context of the European e-Justice Portal should be made available as open data, and how this could be organised, both legally and technically."

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- 3. The expert group on open data convened on 18 June and 25 September 2015 and as a result of its discussions, drafted a report which was presented to the Working Party on e-Law (e-Justice) on 20 October 2015 as set out in 11786/1/15 REV 1.
- 4. The Working Party on e-Law (e-Justice) agreed on the results of the expert group as set out in the report and invited the Commission to follow up on the recommendations of the expert group.
- 5. It was also agreed that following the initial work carried out in 2015, the expert group on open data may also convene in 2016 to explore further possibilities for opening up of national justice data, in particular as a follow-up to the implementation of the PSI Directive.
 - b) Expert group on fundamental rights
- 6. The expert group on fundamental rights was similarly set up as a follow-up to the e-Justice Action Plan 2014-2018, following the discussions in the Working Party on e-Law (e-Justice) on 17 March and 11 May 2015. The Working Party agreed on its initial task on the basis of a mandate as described in 6993/1/15 REV 1: "The expert group on fundamental rights issues should start with analysing the content of the European e-Justice portal from the fundamental rights aspect and evaluate the need to create separate pages on fundamental rights, with new links to other content pages in the portal."
- 7. In addition, it was agreed that the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights would be invited to participate in the work of the expert group, on specific issues, within the mandate and competence of the agency, with a view to starting "discussions with the agency on the possibilities of developing further the tools created in the CLARITY project and on the utilisation of the materials and user-friendly technical apps developed by the Agency [...] in the European e-Justice portal."

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- 8. The expert group on fundamental rights convened on 18 June and 25 September 2015 to discuss the possibilities of integrating the online information tool Fundamental Rights Wizard, developed in the CLARITY project of the Fundamental Rights Agency, into the e-Justice Portal.
- 9. The expert group presented the results of its discussions, as set out in 12883/15, to the Working Party on e-Law (e-Justice) on 20 October 2015.
- 10. The Member States in principle agreed that those Member States which have participated in the CLARITY project in collaboration with the Fundamental Rights Agency, would commit themselves to updating the information available in the online tool in cooperation with the expert group, the Fundamental Rights Agency and the Commission, with a view to its integration in the e-Justice Portal.
- 11. Other interested Member States were also invited to evaluate the possibility of joining the online tool developed by the Fundamental Rights Agency.

III. Conclusion

- 12. The Working Party on e-Law (e-Justice) invites the Coreper/Council to take note of these conclusions and to endorse
 - a) the report of the expert group on open data as set out in 11786/1/15 REV 1 and the suggested way forward as set out in paragraphs 4 and 5; and
 - b) the results of the expert group on fundamental rights as set out in 12883/15 and the suggested way forward as set out in paragraphs 10 and 11.

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