



Council of the  
European Union

Brussels, 18 December 2015  
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REV 1

ENFOPOL 345

**NOTE**

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From: Presidency

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To: Law Enforcement Working Party

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No. prev. doc.: 13627/14

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Subject: Results of the meeting of experts for major sports events held on 12  
November 2015 in Brussels

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The meeting of experts for major sports events under the Luxembourg Chairmanship was held in the framework of the LEWP on 12 November 2015 in Brussels.

The LEWP is invited to take note of the results of this meeting set out below.

## **1. Adoption of the agenda**

The agenda was adopted as set out in CM 4449/1/15 REV 1 with the deletion of points 4 and 11.

## **2. Overview of the activities of the Think Tank – results of meetings held in Riga (LV), Bucharest (RO) and Luxembourg (LU) in 2015**

The ~~Working Party~~ expert group took note of the presentation by the Chair of the Think Tank about the background for the creation of the Think Tank in 1989 by DE, NL and UK, its expansion to 22 Member States and an overview of its recent meetings.

## **3. Discussion on the costs of visiting police delegations in connection with football matches in the current financial climate**

13649/14 ENFOPOL 296 SPORT 47

The ~~Working Party~~ expert group agreed that on the basis of the conclusions of the study on the costs of hosting and deploying visiting police delegations in connection with football matches (and other sports events) with an international dimension (13649/14), the Think Tank at its upcoming meeting on 26-27 January 2016 in Dublin (IE) would consider the idea of submitting proposals for draft Council Conclusions on this subject. The aim would be to outline the benefits of hosting visiting police delegations as a cost-effective solution for ensuring security of football matches.

## **4. Proposal for revised draft Council Resolution regarding the "EU Football Handbook"**

This point was deleted from the agenda.

**5. Proposal for draft Council Resolution on EU Handbook on Police Liaison with Supporters**

13816/15 ENFOPOL 328 SPORT 56

The RO delegation / Vice-Chair of the Think Tank presented the proposed draft Council Resolution on EU Handbook on Police Liaison with Supporters, which had been prepared by a working expert group set up under the Italian Presidency. It was underlined that the draft Handbook provides a range of options to be adapted to the specific needs of each Member State in order to maximise police liaison with supporters. Delegations were invited to send their written comments on the draft Handbook by 30 November 2015. The agreed Handbook would then be submitted to the LEWP.

**6. State of play as regards Council Decision 2007/412/JHA amending Decision 2002/348/JHA concerning security in connection with football matches with an international dimension**

The Working Party expert group took note of the presentation by the Chair of the Think Tank of the state of play as regards ongoing informal consultations on Council Decision 2007/412/JHA. Delegations were invited to send their ideas regarding the possible need to amend this Decision by 30 November 2015.

**7. Implementation of Council Conclusions adopting the 2014-2016 EU work programme on minimising risks to safety, security and public order in connection with sports events, in particular football matches, with an international dimension**

13817/15 ENFOPOL 329 SPORT 57

The Working Party expert group took note of the progress update of October 2015 as regards the implementation of Council Conclusions adopting the 2014-2016 EU work programme, and approved the priority work programme actions for 2016 (13817/15), following a detailed presentation by the Chair of the Think Tank. The Chair informed delegations that the document would be submitted to the LEWP for approval.

## **8. Preparations for the 2016 European Championship in France**

The ~~Working Party~~ expert group took note of the presentation by the FR delegation of the preparations for the 2016 European Championship in France. The FR delegation explained that it would be the first time that 24 teams would participate and 51 matches would be played. Visiting police delegations would be invited to nominate 2 liaison officers to the central office and 6 officers to mobile teams, who would be taken in charge by France. A few delegations enquired about further organisational details and would pursue bilateral consultations with FR.

## **9. Cooperation with the Council of Europe Standing Committee of the European Convention on Spectator Violence**

The ~~Working Party~~ expert group took note of the presentation by the DE delegation / Chair of the Standing Committee on the progress as regards the new European Convention on Integrated Approach to Safety, Security and Service in Connection with Football matches and other Major Sports Events, which would be submitted for adoption by the CoE Parliamentary Assembly on 27 November 2015. Other activities of the Standing Committee of relevance for the experts of major sports events, such as the visit to Russia, the organiser of World Cup 2018, and ongoing discussions with Interpol were also presented.

## **10. State of play of the preparation for the World Cup 2018 in Russia**

The ~~Working Party~~ expert group took note of the presentation by the Chair of the Think Tank about the ongoing working relations with the Russian authorities in the preparation for the World Cup 2018 to be held in Russia. Delegations were informed that the national football information point (NFIP) had been set up in Russia.

## **11. (poss.) Plans of the incoming NL and SK Presidencies**

This point was deleted from the agenda.

## **12. Any other business**

No points were raised under AOB.