



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 13 January 2014

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"I" ITEM NOTE

from : General Secretariat of the Council
to : Coreper

No. Cion prop. : 17621/13 DROIPEN 158 COPEN 235 CODEC 2929 + ADD 1 + ADD 2 +
ADD 3

Subject : Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the
strengthening of certain aspects of the presumption of innocence and of the right
to be present at trial in criminal proceedings
- Optional consultation of the European Economic and Social Committee and of
the Committee of the Regions ¹

1. On 28 November 2013, the Commission submitted to the European Parliament and to the Council a proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the strengthening of certain aspects of the presumption of innocence and of the right to be present at trial in criminal proceedings.
2. The proposal, which is based on Article 82(2)(b) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, does not require the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee and of the Committee of the Regions. Nevertheless, the Commission proposes to consult these bodies on an optional basis.

¹ The sole purpose of this note is to decide on the consultation of another institution/body and not on the substance.

3. In view of the subject matter of the proposal it seems appropriate to consult the said two Committees.

 4. Coreper is therefore invited to decide, pursuant to Articles 304 and 307 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union and to Article 19(7)(h) of the Council's Rules of Procedure, to consult the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions on the above proposal, and to request the Committees to give their opinion as soon as possible.
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