

PSCE Newsletter n°3 / 2011

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Forum for Public Safety Communication Europe

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POLICY

Latest results of the Justice and Home Affairs Council

On 9 and 10 June 2011, Justice and Home Affairs (JHA) Council met in Luxembourg to discuss many outstanding issues among which EU counter-terrorism strategy, cybercrime attacks, law enforcement network on CBRN security, critical infrastructure protection and proposals for establishing a working method in the field of EU security. The summaries of actions taken in these areas are presented below.

EU Counter-terrorism strategy

The Council discussed and welcomed the latest discussion paper on the implementation of the EU Counter-terrorism Strategy, presented by the EU Counter-terrorism Coordinator.

Cybercrime - Attacks against IT systems

The Council adopted a general approach on a draft directive on attacks against information systems, proposed by the Commission in September 2010.

Law enforcement network on CBRN security – Conclusions

The Council adopted conclusions on the creation of a European network of law enforcement units specialised in prevention of terrorist attacks involving chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear materials.

Cross-border cooperation in the fight against terrorism and crime - Conclusions

The Council also adopted conclusions on the implementation of the "Prüm decisions", taking stock of the situation and inviting member states to take appropriate measures in order to speed up this process.

Critical infrastructure protection – Conclusions

Furthermore, the Home Affairs ministers adopted also conclusions on the development of the external dimension of the European Programme for Critical Infrastructure Protection.

EU security

The Council took note of the Hungarian Presidency proposal for establishing a working method for closer cooperation and coordination in the field of EU security.

Radio Spectrum Policy: Commission issues opinion on EP report

On 11 May 2011, European Commission adopted position on European Parliament's first reading amendments to the Radio Spectrum Policy Programme which were adopted in Plenary on 11 May 2011. One of these amendments (78) – closely analysed by PSCE in previous Newsletters - also concerns the allocation of spectrum for Public Protection and Disaster Relief (PPDR).

Resolution on the EU Emergency Number 112

On 5 July 2011, the European Parliament adopted a resolution on Universal Service and 112. After several months of debate, MEPs agreed on a set of actions to raise citizens' awareness of 112 and improve its functioning.

Progress report of the Radio Communications Expert Group

On 16 June 2011, the Council of the EU adopted the "Progress report of the Radio Communications Expert Group" describing the main achievements regarding the development of intersystem interfaces which final objective is to improve radio communication between operational units in border areas.

PSCE ACTIVITIES



PSCE's involvement in CIIP - EP3R

The Council Directive 2008/114/EC on the identification and designation of European Critical Infrastructure (ECI) applies to the energy and transport sectors and should be assessed and reviewed as of January 2012. The need to include other sectors within its scope, in particular the ICT sector, will be analysed. It was already intention to do so when adopting this Directive, but it proved to be difficult to identify critical infrastructures for ICT. It is therefore objective of European Public-Private Partnership for Resilience (EP3R) meetings to prepare background information for the European Council when reviewing the Directive in 2012. PSCE participated to the last set of EP3R meetings which took place on 7 July 2011.

Workshop on European Disaster Response

On 15 June 2011 the European Parliament held a Workshop on European Disaster Response organised in the context of the Report on the European Commission Communication entitled "Towards a stronger European disaster response: the role of civil protection and humanitarian assistance".

"Towards a stronger EU disaster response" – follow up

PSCE followed very closely discussions on draft report "Towards a stronger European disaster response: the role of civil protection and humanitarian assistance" by MEP Elisabetta Gardini. On 6 July 2011 PSCE has sent a letter to the Members of the ENVI Committee expressing its views on the amendments to be voted on 13 July. In particular, PSCE expressed its strong support to the amendments emphasizing the importance of providing real-time

information essential for the rescue teams on the ground.

PSCE welcomes 2 new institutional members

Since the last issue of the PSCE Newsletter, Solaris Mobile Ltd and Alcatel-Lucent joined PSCE. PSCE membership currently consists of 54 institutional members which are classified in three groups:

1. Users - Persons who are responsible for the management, specification, design, installation, maintenance, operation and use of public safety communications systems and information management systems, are eligible for this category of Membership.
2. Industrials – Persons who are working in business, industry and organisations, who receive compensation in any form for services rendered or products sold, are eligible for this category of Membership.
3. Researchers - Persons, who are involved with a recognised research authority such as an academic establishment or research consultancy and regularly conduct research into the development and use of public safety communications and information management systems, are eligible for this category of Membership.

The category of membership decides which Committee the different member belongs to.

ACRIMAS: latest developments



In 2012, the European Commission will call for a large demonstration project on international crisis management (CM). The call will be prepared on the basis of the analyses submitted by three preparatory projects that started this year as phase I of the demonstration (ACRIMAS, CRISYS, and

HELP). During this phase ACRIMAS (Aftermath Crisis Management System-of-Systems) and the other projects support the preparation of the call and the demo project by proposing relevant topics as well as a strategic roadmap to be executed in phase II, the actual demonstration phase. Further, they have to raise awareness among the stakeholder community in CM (users, academia and industry) and to disseminate its findings. PSCE is a project partner of ACRIMAS.

ACRIMAS second workshop

The second workshop of the FP7 project ACRIMAS on “Current Gaps and Needs in Crisis Management in Europe” will take place on 7 September 2011 at 09.30 -17:00 in Prague, Czech Republic. The aim of the workshop is to present, discuss and validate the current state of ACRIMAS’ work with the broader stakeholder community in crisis management (CM) in Europe.

ACRIMAS is reaching its next milestone, which is the identification of current and emerging shortcomings and needs for improvement when it comes to the response to and recovery from large-scale disasters inside and outside Europe. In a first step, ACRIMAS established an overview of the current CM set-up in Europe and developed relevant CM scenarios. In a second step the findings have been analysed and discussed with relevant service providers (civil protection authorities, first responders, etc.). In order to derive and formulate concrete needs for future CM operations. The continuation of this second step will be the focus of the 2nd ACRIMAS workshop.

The target audience comprises all stakeholder groups, i.e. civil protection authorities and personnel, political and legal experts from all levels of government, crisis managers, first responders, academia and the military. Also participants from local communities and services, NGOs, public authorities, researchers and industry from Europe and beyond as well as from EU, NATO and UN are highly welcomed.

Participation is free of charge. Upon application, travel & accommodation costs for a limited number of participants from public authorities, universities and NGOs can be reimbursed by the project (max. 600€ per participant). Registration for the workshop is possible until 31 August by sending an email to the project coordinator (Hans-Martin Pastuszka, Fraunhofer Institute for Technological Trend

Analysis (INT), Germany, Email: hans-martin.pastuszka@int.fraunhofer.de.

ACRIMAS first milestones

The ACRIMAS consortium has recently submitted the deliverables D2.1, D2.2 and D4.1: “Report on current crisis management framework”, “Report on misfits” and “Inventory report”.

The description of the political and legal framework of aftermath crisis management (CM) in the EU, subject of work package (WP) 2 in ACRIMAS, is mainly supposed to provide an overview necessary to identify and recommend activities for the subsequent demonstration phase on aftermath CM. It serves the need to understand the political and legal mechanisms in which CM operations are embedded in and organized by; in the Member States and on EU level. The “Report on Misfits” provides the projects with information on political and legal issues and challenges that should be considered in the tasks and mission (WP3) as well as the gaps and requirements analysis (WP4). D4.1 (Inventory Report) is the first deliverable associated with ACRIMAS WP 4: The “Gaps and Requirements Analysis”; more specifically D4.1 is associated with Task 4.2 – Organisations, capabilities and procedures. The objective of this deliverable is to provide an overview and high level description of the tasks performed by the key organisations involved in CM and their procedures; D4.1 will be used as a reference frame for the gap analysis that will be carried out in Task 4.3 (the main task of WP4).

The overview is provided by summarizing the main responsibilities and capabilities of the different emergency and support services in case of a major accident. Further, critical areas where a capability gap is likely to be identified were compiled.

Next PSCE Conference

The next PSCE Forum Conference will be co-organised with the Polish Main School of Fire Service on 30 November and 1 December 2011 in Warsaw, Poland.



This time, PSCE event will focus on:

- Cyber Crime
- Spectrum needs
- Impact of social networks in crisis management
- Presentation of activities and findings of the ACRIMAS project

PSCE conferences traditionally feature presentations of top-level policymakers, academic researchers, industrial experts and other interested stakeholders addressing the new developments in the area of public safety communications. They normally attract over 100 international participants from more than 20 countries.

There are a number of unique sponsorship and exhibition opportunities available at PSCE for interested companies.

For more information please contact secretariat@psc-europe.eu.

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