



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 29 May 2007

**5845/3/07
REV 3**

LIMITE

**ENFOPOL 13
JAI 45**

PUBLIC

"I/A" ITEM NOTE

From: Article 36 Committee
To: COREPER / Council
Subject: Council Recommendations concerning sharing of information on terrorist kidnappings

1. Protecting citizens from terrorist attacks, in particular by preventing such attacks, is a priority of the European Union. But the terrorist threat can take the form not only of attacks inside and outside the EU; terrorist kidnappings are also a particular cause for concern. Terrorists have already kidnapped numerous EU citizens to achieve their political goals, demonstrate their dangerousness or extort money in return for the hostages' release.
2. In crisis areas there is a substantial risk of terrorist kidnappings, and several Member States have already had to cope with such situations. To have recourse to this valuable experience in the future, information on terrorist kidnappings should be shared at EU level. This is in line with the goal set out in the EU Counter-Terrorism Strategy (doc. 14469/4/05) to develop crisis coordination arrangements supported by the necessary operational procedures.
3. The Working Party on Terrorism recently finalised a Presidency Proposal to share information on terrorist kidnappings, which is set out in the Annex.

4. At its meeting of 22-23 May 2007 the Article 36 Committee endorsed the proposed Council Recommendations set out in the Annex.

 5. On this basis COREPER is requested to forward the Council Recommendations concerning sharing of information on terrorist kidnappings to the Council for approval.
-

COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION
of ...
concerning sharing of information on terrorist kidnappings

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Whereas:

- (1) Kidnappings by groups/individuals that can be placed within the spectrum of international terrorism pose a huge challenge to Member States.
- (2) To successfully resolve such situations, Member States must gather background information, establish contacts and initiate discussions in a confidential setting.
- (3) The capacities of the Member State concerned would be significantly strengthened if it were able to resort to experience which other Member States have gained in comparable situations.
- (4) To this end, each Member State should submit a data sheet containing key information on past kidnappings to the other Member States giving only unclassified information after the incident has been resolved and restricted to incidents related to international terrorism.

HEREBY RECOMMENDS,

1. Member States:
 - a. to submit, after a kidnapping incident has been resolved, the following data¹:
 - Country and region in which the kidnapping took place
 - Number and nationality of the hostage(s)
 - Time and date of the kidnapping

¹ In case of a kidnapping this information could help to quickly identify whether another Member State already has experience with kidnappings of EU citizens in the same region, by the same terrorist group or under comparable circumstances. The Member State concerned can then contact the specified contact person. Further information and experience should be shared bilaterally in accordance with national law.

- Time and date of the end of the incident
- Perpetrators / responsible terrorist group
- Modus operandi of the kidnapping
- Motivation for the kidnapping
- Involvement of a mediator yes/no
- Contact person in the Member State concerned

This information should be submitted in accordance with the format set out in Annex 1.

b. to also submit the following additional information if appropriate:

- Hostages' reason for being in the country, language skills, gender of the hostage
- Ideology, nationality, language skills of the perpetrators
- Means used by the perpetrators to address the public
- Details on the perpetrators' modus operandi

This optional information should be submitted in accordance with the format set out in Annex 2.

2. If personal data are to be included, such data are to be submitted in accordance with national law.
3. Member States to compile information on all incidents which have occurred since 1 January 2002 and submit this summary to the other Member States.
4. Member States to share information on the basis of the above-mentioned principles through the BdL network for EU-wide information sharing on terrorist incidents.
5. Member States to share, as far as possible, the information also with Europol and on the basis of the amount and type of shared data, after one year, to examine whether it would be advisable to set up a database at Europol.
6. Member States to draw up a list of contact details and exchange this list in order to facilitate direct communication between contact points.

**Notification of Terrorist Kidnap
(or Suspected Terrorist Kidnap)**

Please complete all fields in this box

National Single Point of Contact/ Competent Authority:	
Name:	Reporting Member State:
Rank /Position:	Dept/ Section:
Telephone:	Fax:
Mobile:	E-mail:
Motivation for the Kidnap:	
Time/ Date of Kidnap/ Hostage taking:	End of Incident Time/ Date:
Number/ Nationality of Hostage(s):	
Country/ Region of the Crime:	
Perpetrators/ Responsible Group:	
Summary of Modus Operandi (more detail can be provided on the next page):	
Involvement of Interpreters/ Mediators:	

ANNEX 2 TO THE ANNEX

Completion of the following information is optional in accordance with national law

Hostage #1 (optional)		
Name:	Date of Birth:	Gender:
Reason for being in Country?	1st Language:	2nd Language:
Telephone:	Nationality:	
Hostage #2 (optional)		
Name:	Date of Birth:	Gender:
Reason for being in Country?	1st Language:	2nd Language:
Telephone:	Nationality:	
Hostage #3 (optional)		
Name:	Date of Birth:	Gender:
Reason for being in Country?	1st Language:	2nd Language:
Telephone:	Nationality:	

Perpetrators/ Responsible Group #1 (if details known)		
Name:	Ideology:	Nationality:
Is English spoken?	1st Language:	2nd Language:
Use of Publicity:	Means of Publicity:	
Perpetrators/ Responsible Group #2 (if details known)		
Name:	Ideology:	Nationality:
Is English spoken?	1st Language:	2nd Language:
Use of Publicity:	Means of Publicity:	

<p>Modus Operandi</p> <p>Summary of the circumstances of the kidnap. You should consider the following:</p> <p><i>The nature of the hostage taking, i.e. environment.</i></p> <p><i>The nature of the demand, i.e. monetary gain, political aim or concession</i></p> <p><i>To whom the demand was made, including how the demand was made</i></p> <p><i>Language/Interpreter</i></p> <p><i>Hostage Profile (victimological aspects, e.g. residence permit status, professional background)</i></p> <p><i>Negotiation Strategy</i></p> <p><i>Delaying Tactics</i></p> <p><i>Telephone Tactics</i></p> <p><i>Technical Issues</i></p> <p><i>Violence used</i></p> <p><i>The outcome of the incident, including details of resolution, was the hostage released, was the hostage rescued, were suspects detained/ killed?</i></p> <p><i>Any other issues of note</i></p> <p><i>Are there any issues that you feel should be considered as “good practice”?</i></p>	
---	--