

Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs
The Chairman for the Working Group on Schengen Scrutiny

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Mr Dimitris AVRAMOPOULOS
Commissioner for Migration, Home Affairs and Citizenship
European Commission
Rue de la Loi 200
1049 Bruxelles
BELGIUM

Subject:

Analysis provided by the Agencies for the purpose of Schengen evaluations on different fields

Dear Commissioner,

Dean Diomitris,

The Working Group on Schengen Scrutiny has invited Europol and the Fundamental Rights ('FRA') Agency to brief Members on their observatory role in the Schengen Evaluations. The meetings were most useful, but have raised some questions. We were told that both Agencies provide, at the request of the Commission, two risk analysis products: one on fundamental Rights and another on "hotspots of crime"; in both documents, analysis is carried out for all Member States and, in particular, for the Member States evaluated in any given year.

Against this background, the Members of this group have unanimously agreed to address you the following questions:

- 1. How do these documents feed into the Schengen Evaluation Mechanism?
- 2. What is their nature: public, limited or classified?
- 3. Why was Parliament not made aware of these documents?
- 4. Can the Commission transmit them to Parliament?
- 5. Does the Commission request any other products from European Centralised Agencies for the purpose of the Schengen evaluation Mechanism, any particular field or any particular Member State?
- 6. Finally, why are these two agencies only invited for one particular field of evaluation (return, in the case of FRA; Police cooperation in the case of Europol)?

I also take this opportunity to thank you, and the European Commission as a whole, for your cooperation and constructive approach with this Working Group and the European parliament.

Yours sincerely,

Carlos Coelho

cc. - Claude Moraes, Chair, Committee for Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

- Paraskevi Michou, Director General, DG HOME

- Joannes De Ceuster, Head of Unit, DG HOME