



Parliament of Romania

Delegation to the Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group on Europol (JPSG)

Bucharest, 11 December 2019

To the current and future Co-Chairs of the JPSG on Europol

Ref: Last and future meetings of the JPSG on Europol

Dear Chairs and Members of delegations to the JPSG on Europol, Dear Colleagues,

As Romania is preparing to leave the Presidential Troika of the JPSG on Europol, please allow us to share some views and to thank you for the precious and substantial cooperation during the past 18 months.

Being a new body, different from all other inter-parliamentary formats, the JPSG on Europol is expected not only to find its way, with a focus on scrutiny, but also to adapt to the everchanging security environment and challenges.

In this respect, we particularly welcome our Swedish colleagues' opinions expressed on 13 November 2019. Indeed, the decision-making process seems totally blocked and the scrutiny activity remains perfectible.

For the record, in Sofia we agreed in good faith on imperfect Rules of Procedure, so that scrutiny starts as soon as possible and the Rules of Procedures be perfected in September 2019. Unfortunately, and despite significant efforts undertaken by many delegations, today we find ourselves trapped with the same Rules of Procedure agreed two years ago, which not only block the decision-making process (the last JPSG meeting stands for undeniable evidence in this respect), but seem untouchable for the rest of the JPSG's existence.

As a result, we believe it is time, in good faith, to deblock the current situation, to perfect these Rules of Procedure and to provide a mechanism enabling us to adapt them to the everchanging security environment. **We therefore support the idea of establishing a sub-group for this purpose**.

As regards the scrutiny activity, it is the very essence of our meetings and we believe we need to provide ourselves with the best existing instruments, both procedural and substantial, in order to carry it out. For this reason, we plead for complete and relevant ex-ante information and for consistent presentations made by Europol operative agents.

As our Swedish colleagues mentioned, in Bucharest we had started reflections on the Rules of Procedure (notably with respect to the JPSG representative the Management Board of Europol) and invited a number of Europol directors, making their presentations and speeches available. Therefore, please count on us to support any future actions you might take, aiming at continuing our efforts and at perfecting our Rules of Procedure and scrutiny activity.

Hoping these views are taken into account, we stay available for any further contributions and thank you for the valuable cooperation.

Yours faithfully,

On behalf of the Romanian delegation to the JPSG on Europol,

Oana - Consuela FLOREA

Head of the Romanian Delegation to the JPSG on Europol