

**TRIO PRESIDENCY OF BULGARIA, CROATIA AND THE CZECH REPUBLIC
18-MONTH WORK PROGRAMME**

1 July 2015 – 31 December 2016

Based on the Salzburg Forum Vision 2020, the Salzburg Forum will continue to strategically plan its actions by way of an 18-month work programme. In the forthcoming period the Salzburg Forum remains an informal regional security partnership operating on three levels: EU level, regional level and the level of cooperation with third countries.

At the EU level it will be our goal to identify and enforce our shared interests by using the established coordination mechanism and ways of cooperation - meetings in margins of EU working groups or JHA Council sessions, joint position papers and letters.

On the regional level the Salzburg Forum will focus on specific areas of police cooperation (counteraction to cross-border crime, counteraction to illegal migration and human smuggling, witness protection, road-traffic safety, etc.) and disaster management, the main form of cooperation being expert meetings and workshops.

Regarding its external dimension the Salzburg Forum will continue to concentrate on – from the security point of view - most relevant neighbourhood, i.e. our Friends of the Salzburg Forum from the Western Balkans and the Republic of Moldova, the rest of the Eastern neighbours, as well as Turkey.

The leading role in the implementation of the majority of objectives will be carried out by Bulgaria, Croatia and the Czech Republic, which take up the Trio Presidency of the Salzburg Forum as of 1 July 2015.

1. COOPERATION AT EU LEVEL

The following are identified as those strategic issues expected to be on the EU agenda in the next 18 months where cooperation within the Salzburg Forum should be enhanced and possible shared interests could be explored. This is a living document which can be amended and updated according to future needs and developments.

Action	Objectives	Activities	Lead nation(s)	Time-frame
<p>1. Implementation of the renewed EU Internal Security Strategy</p>	<p>Channelling the interests of the SF Member States during the discussions at EU level, strengthening the role of COSI</p> <p>Establishing a sound implementation document that includes the measures contained in the new ISS, the European Agenda on Security and also other security-related documents (European Agenda on Migration)</p> <p>Considering the links between the three main priorities – fight against terrorism and prevention of radicalisation, countering organised crime and countering cybercrime</p> <p>Considering the close links between the internal and external dimension of security when developing the measures for the implementation of the main priorities</p>	<p>Consulting and presenting joint positions in the framework of COSI and other Council Working Parties</p> <p>Possible joint meeting on the definition of priorities for the implementation of the new ISS</p>	<p>respective SF Presidency</p>	<p>On-going</p>
<p>2. Practical implementation of the EU strategic documents on counter terrorism, violent extremism and prevention of</p>	<p>Enhancing the cooperation between police authorities and intelligence services</p>	<p>Review of the existing mechanisms for exchange of information and proactive role</p>	<p>respective SF Presidency</p>	<p>On-going</p>

radicalisation	Active and full use of the capacities of SIS/SIRENE, Europol and INTERPOL for information sharing Considering further development of SIS to tackle the issue ¹	Discussion about the problems with the practical implementation of the measures with regard to the alerts on foreign fighters entered in SIS	Bulgaria	Second half of 2015
3. Promoting the adoption and practical implementation of the EU PNR Directive	Launching a discussion at EU level on the practical implementation of the PNR Directive, in order to reach agreement on the main technical aspects and avoid unnecessary delay in the practical implementation after its entry into force	Initiating working meetings and workshops	Bulgaria	Second half of 2015
4. Counteraction to cybercrime	Forming common strategic goals on the basis of the priority Cybercrime in the renewed ISS	Active cooperation of participating MS in the implementation of the respective EU Policy Cycle priority	respective SF Presidency	On-going
5. Schengen enlargement	Strong and consistent support of the SF Member States to the accession of Bulgaria and Romania to the Schengen area	Active lobbying at EU level for the adoption of the Council decision without unnecessary delay		Till the adoption of the Decision
	Assisting Croatia in the process of preparations for the Schengen evaluations and connection to SIS	Sharing experience and best practices When possible – participation of SF experts at the self-evaluations in the different areas	respective SF Presidency	On-going
6. Implementation of the European Agenda on Migration	Active participation in the discussions at EU level on the practical implementation of the European Agenda on Migration, aiming at geographically comprehensive approach	Consulting and presenting common positions in the framework of SCIFA, COSI and other Working Parties of the Council	respective SF Presidency	On-going
7. Common European Asylum System	Swift, full and coordinated implementation of the Common European	Further steps towards advanced practical cooperation with		On-going

¹ Bearing in mind the running re-cast of SIS II legal framework

	Asylum System	the support of EASO		
8. Contribution to the implementation of the EU Policy Cycle for Organised and Serious International Crime	Including the aspects of counter terrorism as a horizontal issue in the EU Policy Cycle			
	Active participation in relevant EMPACT projects through implementation of Operational Action Plans priorities/		respective SF Presidency	On-going

2. REGIONAL PRACTICAL COOPERATION

Action	Objectives	Activities	Lead nation(s)	Time-frame
1. Holding regular meetings of the General Police Directors of the SF Member States	Strengthening the role of the General Police Directors as the link between the political discussions and the practical cooperation	Holding regular meetings for outlining specific joint activities in order to implement the priorities defined by the Ministers	respective SF Presidency	On-going
2. Witness protection	Enhancing the cooperation under the SF WP Agreement Facilitating the secure communication and information exchange between the SF Member States	Implementation of the agreement Meeting of the SF working group – exchange of experience	respective SF Presidency	On-going
3. Counter terrorism, violent extremism and prevention of radicalisation	Enhancing the practical cooperation in this area between the SF Member States	Exchange of experience and close cooperation in the framework of the relevant EU initiatives and regional formats	respective SF Presidency	On-going
4. Counteraction to cybercrime	Enhancing the practical cooperation in investigation of cybercrimes	Exchange of experience with regard to countering sexual abuse and exploitation of children, child pornography, attacks against information systems, data retention and network	Bulgaria	On-going

		information security		
5. Reduction of methamphetamine production by regulating availability of drug precursors (especially medical products containing ephedrine/ pseudoephedrine; and red phosphorus)	Regulation of availability of medical products containing ephedrine/ pseudoephedrine Introduction of monitoring of the red phosphorus sale Support of the common EU legislation	Evaluation of the progress made in the SF Member States at the Ministerial Conference	Czech Republic	2016
6. Counteraction to smuggling of tobacco and tobacco products	Enhancing the regional cooperation	Exchange of experience and elaboration of an analytical paper for the used criminal schemes for smuggling and illegal production of tobacco products and tobacco	Bulgaria	Second half of 2015
7. CBE - Facilitating cross-border enforcement of road-safety related traffic offences	Implementation of the SF CBE Agreement	Promoting the signing the SF CBE agreement by more states Practical implementation (EUCARIS)	Hungary Austria	On-going
		SF Workshop on the practical implementation of Directive 2015/413	Bulgaria	Second half of 2015
8. Counteraction to illegal migration and human smuggling	Enhancing practical cooperation	Meeting of the heads of the national units for counteraction to human smuggling	Bulgaria	Second half of 2015
9. Implementation of PA 11 – Security of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR)	Active involvement of the SF Member States in the implementation of the objectives set forth in PA 11 of EUSDR	Coordination of joint activities Drafting and implementation of joint projects	Bulgaria	On-going
10. Cooperation in the area of disaster management	Enhancing practical cooperation	Workshop on EU procedures and best practices on	Bulgaria	Second half of 2015

	Promoting EU practices in notification and request for assistance in case of disasters	information exchange in cases of fires, disasters and emergencies		
11. Integrity and ethics for law enforcement authorities	Promotion of the necessity for ethics and integrity in law enforcement authorities	Elaboration of working papers on further integration of integrity and ethics into the police work Conference on integrity and police ethics	Czech Republic Romania	2016

3. COOPERATION WITH THIRD COUNTRIES

Action	Objectives	Activities	Lead nation(s)	Time-frame
1. Cooperation with the Western Balkan countries				
1.1. Support to the Western Balkan countries in the process of EU accession negotiations where chapters 23 and 24 are of significant importance	Bringing the Western Balkan countries closer to the EU standards on the judiciary and fundamental rights and justice, freedom and security		respective SF Presidency	On-going
1.2. Enhancing the cross-border police cooperation in SEE through implementation of the existing mechanisms	Strengthening the cooperation in the framework of SELEC and PCC SEE Better use of the capacities for information exchange of Europol and INTERPOL	Continuing the active operational cooperation in the framework of SELEC Full practical implementation of PCC SEE Practical implementation of the operational agreements between SEE countries and Europol	Bulgaria	On-going
1.3. Counter terrorism, violent extremism and prevention of radicalisation	Practical implementation of the strategic priorities outlined at the SEE regional ministerial conferences (Vienna – March 2015, Budva and Belgrade – April 2015, Tirana – May 2015)	Expert workshops, including on prevention/deradicalisation, exchange of experience and good practices	respective SF Presidency in cooperation with Austria	On-going

	<p>Joint Conference of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Ministers of the Interior in the framework of the Salzburg Forum and “Friends of the Salzburg Forum” to be held in Sarajevo in 2016.</p>	<p>Further cooperation and joint efforts of the Western Balkans and the European Union, also within existing regional cooperation fora, such as the Salzburg Forum and the Brdo Process in implementing the three tier-approach Shaping – Preventing – Reacting</p>	<p>Austria</p>	<p>On-going</p>
<p>1.4. Counteraction to cybercrime</p>	<p>Enhancing the practical cooperation in this area between the SF Member States and the WB countries, as well as with other strategic partners</p>	<p>Exchange of information, strategic approaches and practical experience</p>	<p>respective SF Presidency</p>	<p>On-going</p>
		<p>SEE regional forums of cyber security and cybercrime</p>	<p>Bulgaria</p>	<p>Second half of 2015 Second half of 2016</p>
<p>1.5. Cooperation on migration and asylum issues</p>	<p>Enhancing practical cooperation</p>	<p>Active cooperation with countries of origin and transit Implementing fast and efficient measures, assisting the development and enhancement of the capacities of the competent authorities in each country to manage properly migratory flows</p>	<p>respective SF Presidency</p>	<p>On-going</p>
		<p>Strengthening the reception systems and enhancing the practical cooperation between the SF Member States and the WB countries with regard to exchange of information on registered persons</p>	<p>respective SF Presidency</p>	<p>On-going</p>
		<p>Participation of the WB countries in the</p>	<p>Bulgaria</p>	<p>Second half</p>

		meeting of the heads of the national units for counteraction to human smuggling		of 2015
		Review the use of existing platforms for information exchange on new developments and trends	Austria	
1.6. Counteraction to smuggling of tobacco and tobacco products	Enhancing the regional cooperation	Participation of the WB countries in the elaboration of an analytical document for the used criminal schemes for smuggling and illegal production of tobacco products and tobacco	Bulgaria	Second half of 2015
1.7. CBE - Facilitating cross-border enforcement of road-safety related traffic offences	Enhancing the regional cooperation in this area	Participation of the WB countries in the SF workshop on enhancing the cooperation in cross-border exchange of information on road-safety related traffic offences	Bulgaria	Second half of 2015
1.8. Cooperation in the area of disaster management	Enhancing practical cooperation Promoting EU practices in notification and request for assistance in case of disasters	Participation of the WB countries in the workshop on EU procedures and best practices on information exchange in cases of fires, disasters and emergencies	Bulgaria	Second half of 2015
2. Cooperation with the Eastern neighbours				
2.1. Implementation of the SF Declaration on Ukraine from 2014	Exchange of information on the impact of the situation in Ukraine on the internal security of the SF Member States	Continuing the weekly exchange of information within SF	respective SF Presidency	
	Active participation of interested SF Member States in the EU actions of support to the Ukrainian authorities with regard to restoring the			

	rule of law			
2.2. Support to the Republic of Moldova in home affairs area	Bringing the Republic of Moldova closer to the EU standards in justice and home affairs area			
2.3. Implementation of the Action Plan of the Prague Process	Strengthening the implementation of the Eastern dimension of the Global Approach to Migration and Mobility	Fostering the practical interaction in the cooperation areas of the Action Plan and support the way forward (as the Action Plan expires in 2016)		On-going
3. Cooperation with Turkey				
Enhancing the cooperation with Turkey with regard to counteraction to illegal migration and cross-border crime	Strengthening the practical cooperation with regard to border control, counter terrorism, counteraction to illegal migration and human smuggling, smuggling of goods, etc.	Exchange of information Participation of Turkey in some of the SF workshops with WB countries on issues of mutual interest	respective SF Presidency	On-going
4. Cooperation with the countries of the Silk Route region				
Implementation of the Istanbul Declaration of the Budapest Process	Strengthening the implementation of the Southern and Eastern dimension of the Global Approach to Migration and Mobility Development and strengthening of the role of the regional working groups of the Budapest Process with special focus on the Silk Routes region	Fostering the active cooperation with the countries of origin, transit and destination Exchange of experience and expertise, close cooperation in the framework of the relevant initiatives Participation in joint projects		On-going