



19th December 2023

To the Chair(s) of the committee(s) concerned,

Subject: Invitation to the 14th meeting of the Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group (JPSG) on Europol on 18-19 February 2024

Dear Chair,

Within the framework provided by article 51 of the Europol Regulation 2016/794, we are pleased to invite you to the 14th meeting of the Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group (JPSG) on Europol, which will take place on the **18th and 19th of February 2024 in the** *Oude Vismijn* **in Ghent.**

The meeting will be hosted by the Belgian Parliament in cooperation with the European Parliament, and will be held in person only.

The meeting will cover a number of issues, arising directly from the JPSG's prerogatives according to article 51 of the Europol Regulation, and will include presentations by Ms Catherine DE BOLLE, Europol Executive Director, Mr Peter DE BUYSSCHER, Chairperson of the Europol Management Board, Mr Wojciech WIEWIÓROWSKI, European Data Protection Supervisor, and keynote interventions by Ms Ylva JOHANSSON, European Commissioner for Home Affairs and Ms Annelies VERLINDEN, Belgian Minister of Home Affairs.

Furthermore the draft agenda includes two scrutiny sessions, respectively on *Illegal weapons Trafficking* and *Combating trafficking in human beings*.

General aspects

We would like to recall that your Parliament/Chamber can be represented by up to four members in the JPSG (in the case of bicameral parliaments two members each).

Members and their delegations will be asked to register for this meeting.

According to article 4.3 of the JPSG Rules of Procedure, the working languages will be English and French.

All documents submitted by Europol, in line with article 51.3 of the Europol Regulation, as well as all contributions by delegations to the JPSG, and other relevant documents will be published on the <u>IPEX</u> website ahead of the meeting.

Written questions to Europol

According to Article 4.2 of the JPSG Rules of Procedure, we kindly draw your attention to the right to address oral and written questions to Europol. Please find attached the Guide for Members on JPSG Written and Oral questions, explaining the procedure for submitting questions.

According to Article 4.3 of the JSPG Rules of Procedure, the working languages of the JPSG are English and French, therefore we would like to ask the delegations to submit all written questions, written comments or contributions in one of these two languages. Please send them to the JPSG Secretariat jpsg.libesecretariat@europarl.europa.eu and the Belgian Parliament jpsg.europol@parleu2024.be.

Please find attached the draft agenda of the meeting.

Yours Sincerely,

Ms Celia Groothedde, Co-Chair of the JPSG, Head of the Belgian Senate Delegation to the JPSG

Mr Koen Metsu, Co-Chair of the JPSG, Head of the Belgian House of Representatives Delegation to the JPSG

Mr Juan Fernando Lopez Aguilar, Co-chair of the JPSG, Chair of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs, European Parliament

Annex 1 : Draft agenda of the 14th meeting of the Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group on Europol

Annex 2 : Note with practical information

Annex 3: Guide for Members on JPSG Written and Oral questions