

AMENDMENT FORM 38

PART III: THE POLICIES AND FUNCTIONING OF THE UNION

TITLE III: POLICIES AND INTERNAL ACTIONS

CHAPTER IV: AREA OF FREEDOM, SECURITY AND JUSTICE

SECTION 5: POLICE COOPERATION

Suggestion for amendment of Article III-172

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Status :- ~~Member~~ ———— ~~Alternate~~ ———— -Observer

1. Europol's mission is to support and strengthen action by the Member States' police authorities **of the Member States and where appropriate the regions and local authorities** and other law enforcement services and their mutual cooperation in preventing and combating serious crime affecting two or more Member States, terrorism and forms of crime which affect a common interest covered by a Union policy.
 2. A European law shall determine Europol's structure, operation, field of action and tasks. These tasks may include:
 - (a) the collection, storage, processing, analysis and exchange of information forwarded particularly by the authorities of the Member States or third countries or bodies;
 - (b) the coordination, organisation and implementation of investigative and operational action carried out jointly with the **responsible** Member States' competent authorities or in the context of joint investigative teams, where appropriate in liaison with Eurojust.
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Explanation:

1. *This removes the implication that police authorities all depend on State/central governments.*
2. *To prevent central state authorities using cooperation with Europol to encroach upon the responsibilities of regional and local authorities and police forces.*