

AMENDMENT FORM

Suggestion for amendment of Article: III-172

Suggestion for Part III

By Mr : Farnleitner

Status : - Member

Article III-172 (ex Article 22)

1. Europol's mission is to support and strengthen action by the Member States' police 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) support of the Member States in the coordination, organisation and implementation of investigative and operational action carried out ~~by jointly with~~ the Member States' competent authorities or in the context of joint investigative teams, where appropriate also which the support of ~~in liaison with~~ Eurojust.

A European law shall also lay down the procedures for scrutiny of Europol's activities by the European Parliament, together with Member States' national parliaments.

3. ~~Any operational action by Europol must be carried out in liaison and in agreement with the authorities of the Member States whose territory is concerned.~~ The application of coercive measures shall be the exclusive responsibility of the competent national authorities.

Explanation (if any) :

Providing Europol with operative powers would not offer any additional value. The law enforcement agencies in each Member State are well-operating and capable of conducting the necessary investigations. There is also the need to consider the principle of subsidiarity.