

## **Amendments to the Draft Rules of Procedure of the Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group on Europol (version 6 September 2017)**

### **Amendment I**

To Rule 4.2 *Working languages*

The second sentence is amended to read: “Documents published by the JSPG shall be communicated to the national Parliaments in their respective official languages.”

### **Amendment II**

To Rule 4.3 *Interpretation (a) Meetings at the Parliament of the Member State holding the presidency of the Council of the European Union (1st semester)*

The entire provision is amended to read as follows: “Simultaneous interpretation shall be provided from and into all the official languages of the EU.”

### **Amendment III**

To Rule 4.6. *Conclusions*

After the first sentence, the following new sentence is inserted: “Summary conclusions shall be drafted in all the official languages of the EU and submitted to the national parliaments.”

The second sentence consequently becomes the third sentence and is amended to read as follows: “The Co-Chairs shall draft an initial proposal in all the official languages of the EU which is submitted to the JPSG for approval.”

### **Amendment IV**

To Rule 6.1 *Entry into force of the Rules of Procedure*

The second sentence is amended to read: “Translations into the other official languages of the European Union shall be the responsibility of the European Parliament.”

### **Explanation of Amendments I, II, III and IV**

The official languages of the EU Member States are the official languages of the European Union.

In the provisions of Rule 4.2. (*Working languages*) of the Draft Rules of Procedure, the proponents of the Draft Rules of Procedure suggested that the working languages of the JPSG should be French and English.

The provisions of Rules 4.3. (*Interpretation*), 4.6. (*Conclusions*) and 6.1. (*Entry into force of the Rules of Procedure*) of the Draft Rules of Procedure, also make reference to the use of working languages (English and French), and to the usage of the official language(s) of the Member State holding the presidency of the European Union Council at the JPSG meetings held in that Member State during the first half of the year.

Pursuant to the above, we find it unacceptable for the documents published by the JPSG to be sent to national parliaments in French and English (these include summaries and conclusions on the outcome of the JPSG meetings, as well as the Rules of Procedure of the JPSG).

We also consider it unacceptable that at the JPSG meetings which are held in the parliament of the Member State holding the presidency of the Council of the European Union in the first six months of each year, simultaneous interpretation is provided only into English, French and the language(s) of the Member State holding the Presidency of the Council of the EU, and that no simultaneous interpretation is available into the languages of all the other Member States, i.e. it is also possible but the costs thereof are borne by the relevant national delegation or the European Parliament.

Given that the equality of the EU Member States in all aspects is proclaimed by the Treaty on European Union and the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and is an integral part of the Union's fundamental principles, we request that the declared equality of the Member States be translated into reality in this aspect as well by accepting our amendments to the provisions of the JPSG Rules of Procedure.