

Bron: Press Release on the results of the Justice and Home Affairs Council (5-6 October 2006)

EUROPEAN UNION AGENCY FOR FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS

The Council had an exchange of views on the state of play regarding the establishment and effective functioning of the Agency.

The debate focused on the main outstanding question, which is the extension of the scope of the Agency to questions relating to police and judicial penal cooperation (Title VI of the Treaty on European Union, the so-called "Third Pillar").

The Presidency called on Member States, in a constructive spirit, to help in finding a compromise solution to this question, with a view to establishing of the Agency before the end of the year, in accordance with the timeframe set by the European Council in June 2006.

In this respect, the Presidency indicated that it would submit a compromise solution to delegations in the near future.

On 5 July 2005, the Commission submitted to the Council a proposal for a Council Regulation establishing a European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights and a proposal for a Council Decision empowering the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights to pursue its activities in areas referred to in Title VI of the Treaty on European Union¹.

In accordance with the Commission proposal, the Agency will provide the relevant institutions, bodies, offices and agencies of the Community and its Member States when implementing Community law with assistance and expertise relating to fundamental rights in order to support them when they take measures or formulate courses of action within their respective spheres of competence to fully respect fundamental rights.

1 10774/05; COM(2005) 280 final