



Tithe an
Oireachtais
Houses of the
Oireachtas

An Comhchoiste um Dhlí
agus Ceart agus
Comhionannas
Teach Laighean
Baile Átha Cliath 2

Joint Committee on
Justice and Equality
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12ú Lúnasa 2019/12th August 2019

To: the JPSG Co-Chairs and the delegations of National Parliaments and the European Parliament to the JPSG on Europol

A chairde/Dear colleagues,

With regard to the forthcoming meeting of the JPSG in Brussels on 23-24 September 2019, I wish to share with you in advance the views of the Irish delegation on the manner of selection of the JPSG representative to the Board of Europol - which was the subject of debate at our last meeting in Bucharest in February.

The matter was considered by the Committee on Justice and Equality of the Irish Parliament, from which our delegation emanates, and we believe that the JPSG representative should be nominated by the parliamentary delegation of the Member State currently holding the presidency of the Council of the European Union. The representative's mandate should therefore be limited to the six-month term of the Presidency, albeit with the possibility of an extension in certain circumstances – for example, if a country holding the Presidency did not wish to take up the position, for whatever reason. We believe that this is the fairest and most equitable approach as it affords each Member State the same opportunity of participation on the Board. It is also the most transparent approach and would enable national delegations to plan ahead for when they assume the role.

Is mise/I am respectfully yours,

Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin T.D.

Head of the delegation of the Houses of the Oireachtas to the JPSG on Europol

Chairman of the Oireachtas Committee on Justice and Equality