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New President VPB (Dutch CoESS member)



As of January 2009, Tjibbe Joustra will become the new President of VPB. From April 2004 to January 2009 Tjibbe Joustra was National Coordinator for Counterterrorism. Joustra succeeds Willem van Hassel, who has been President of VPB since 2001. His appointment will be formalised during an extraordinary general meeting in January 2009.

➔ Source: Checklist VPB | October 2008

➔ For further information, please consult the VPB website: <http://www.vpb.nl>.

BSIA (UK CoESS member) members in winning form at Security Excellence Awards



The British Security Industry Association (BSIA) members were in winning form at this year's Security Excellence Awards, achieving awards in six categories. This year, the awards celebrated their tenth anniversary of recognising companies, individuals and teams who continually strive for and demonstrate professionalism.

- Source: BSIA | October 10, 2008
- For further information, please consult the BSIA website: http://www.bsia.co.uk/LY8WLW49550_itemid;NAEOKM95222_backlinktype;home_action;displayitem.
- For further information on the Security Excellence Awards and to view a full list of winners, please consult the following website: <http://www.info4security.com/story.asp?sectioncode=9&storycode=4120797&c=1>.

APEG-BVBO (Belgian CoESS member) published its 2006-2007 Activities Report



APEG-BVBO proudly announces the publication of its 2006-2007 Activities Report. APEG-BVBO successfully closed this two-year period and has fully achieved its main goals and strategic objectives. This Activities Report will show you some key trends within the Belgian private security landscape. Next to a substantial number of facts and figures, it also contains an informative section offering a better insight into the responsibilities and objectives of the private security sector.

- Source: APEG-BVBO | October 2008
- The APEG-BVBO Activities Report is available for download either in French: http://www.apeg-bvbo.be/pdf/BVBO_verslag_FR.pdf or in Dutch: http://www.apeg-bvbo.be/pdf/BVBO_verslag_NL.pdf.

CoESS/UNI-Europa 5th Private Security Conference - "From Brussels to the Workplace"



On October 15-16, 2008 CoESS and UNI-Europa, the European social partners for the private security sector, organised the 5th Private Security Conference in Brussels. The Conference was organised in the framework of the European Social Dialogue project "From Brussels to the workplace - A European action plan 2008 for the implementation and follow-up of the European Social dialogue in the private security sector". The project was executed jointly by CoESS and UNI-Europa and funded by the European Commission. The Conference was a resounding success and provided the social partners with clear objectives and additional food for thought to nourish their Working Programme for the years to come.

News from the CoESS Working Committees

CoESS Working Committee Maritime Security - October 20-21, 2008 (Antwerp, Belgium)

On October 20-21, 2008 the Working Committee Maritime Security organised a committee gathering in Antwerp, Belgium. The agenda covered the following main topics: latest developments within SAGMaS, status of the ISPS Code and European Training Programme for Maritime Security Personnel (regarding the ISPS Code), including a newly developed train-the-trainer programme, connections between maritime and logistics.

- The minutes of the Working Committee Maritime Security of October 20-21, 2008 are available on the CoESS intranet site: <http://coess.org/intranet/login.php>. Please note that you will have to login to be able to consult the document. In case you have any difficulties logging in, please contact the CoESS General Secretariat.

News from ASSA-I (Aviation Security Services Association International)

Ministers back 'Single Sky' amid airline scepticism

On October 9, 2008 Transport Ministers gave the go-ahead to the launch of the development phase of the EU's next-generation air traffic management system. But airlines slammed the EU for giving higher priority to a "burdensome" emissions trading scheme than

to realising the 'Single European Sky', which they say could significantly reduce aviation emissions. The decisions by EU Transport Ministers aims to kick-start the five-year development phase of the SESAR project - the technological component of the bloc's 'Single Sky' programme - in a bid to provide a more modern, efficient, safer and greener air traffic management system.

- Source: Council of the European Union | October 9, 2008
- For further information, please consult the Council of the European Union website: http://www.consilium.europa.eu/ueDocs/cms_Data/docs/pressData/en/trans/103235.pdf.

Global airlines blast EU ETS decision

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) has condemned a decision by EU ministers to ignore the current economic downturn and approve a compromise deal on including aviation activities in the bloc's emission trading scheme (EU ETS). On October 24, 2008 EU justice ministers rubberstamped a deal, agreed between the Council and Parliament in June 2008, requiring all flights - both within the EU as well as international ones entering or leaving the bloc - to participate in the Union's carbon cap-and-trade scheme from 2012.

- Source: IATA | October 24, 2008
- For further information, please consult the IATA website: <http://www.iata.org/pressroom/pr/2008-10-24-02.htm>.

Austrian Airlines

On October 29, 2008 the European Commission offered to assist Austria with the privatisation of Austrian Airlines, but warned the government that it must be notified of any decision to grant state aid. Austria is trying to sell its 42% stake in the airline, but Lufthansa, the sole remaining bidder, is demanding that the government should take on some of the company's debt (estimated at € 900 million).

- Source: European Voice | October 30, 2008

News from ASSA-I (Aviation Security Services Association International)

SIA regulation for Northern Ireland

The Security Industry Authority (SIA) announced that its current remit covering England, Wales and Scotland is to be extended to Northern Ireland in 2009, creating a single regulatory scheme for the private security industry throughout the United Kingdom:

- December 2008: training leading to the SIA approved qualifications will be available in Northern Ireland
- May 2009: the SIA will start accepting licence applications and applications to the Approved Contractor Scheme (ACS)
- December 2009: it will become illegal to engage in licensable conduct in Northern Ireland without a licence

- Source: Security Industry Authority (SIA) | October 2, 2008
- For further information, please consult the SIA website: http://www.the-sia.org.uk/home/about_sia/news/nr_080902.htm.

PSA announces introduction of CCTV systems licensing



The Irish Private Security Authority (PSA) have decided to proceed with CCTV Systems Installers' licensing next year. The introduction of licensing to the installers of CCT systems is progressing. Drafting of the Code of Practice (PSA 2006-12), which, together with SR40, will form the standard requirements for this sub-sector is nearing completion and the public consultation process for the Code will commence shortly. The Code is an interim standard pending agreement and publication of the EN50132-1 standard by CENELEC, the European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardisation. Compliance with the Code will not be required by CCTV installers until licensing is introduced in 2009.

- Source: Private Security Authority (PSA) | October 2, 2008
- For further information, please consult the PSA website: <http://www.psa.gov.ie>.

More EU Member States to join US visa scheme

From early 2009, citizens from at least seven more EU Member States will be able to visit the US without having to obtain a visa, predict officials. The Czech Republic, Slovakia, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Hungary and Malta are all expected to join the US visa-waiver programme before the end of 2008, once they have all signed bilateral security cooperation agreements.

→ Source: European Voice | October 2, 2008

New website reveals EU funding beneficiaries

On October 2, 2008 the European Commission launched a website making details of the beneficiaries of EU funding publicly available for the first time.

→ Source: European Commission | October 3, 2008

→ To use this tool, please consult the European Commission website: http://ec.europa.eu/grants/search/index_en.htm.

→ For further information, please consult the European Commission website: http://ec.europa.eu/grants/search/beneficiaries_en.htm.

EU boosts national efforts to fight poverty and social exclusion

The European Commission put forward a set of common principles to help guide EU countries in their strategies to tackle poverty. The Recommendation is based around three key aspects: adequate income support, inclusive labour markets and access to quality services. National governments will be encouraged to refer to these common principles and define policies for 'active inclusion' on this basis so as to step up the fight against exclusion from society and from the labour market.

→ Source: European Commission | October 3, 2008

→ For further information, please consult the European Commission website:

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/08/1448&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>.

European Commission pushes for stronger rights for women workers



On October 3, 2008 the EU executive presented a broad package aimed at helping women to reconcile their professional and private lives, particularly by improving conditions for self-employed and pregnant women. The main objectives of the package are improving conditions for maternity leave, strengthening social protection measures for the self-employed and achieving better child care.

→ Source: European Commission | October 3, 2008

→ For further information, please consult the European Commission website:

<http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=89&langId=en&newsId=402&furtherNews=yes> and

<http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=89&newsId=404&furtherNews=yes>.

MEPs back stronger rights for temporary workers

On October 7, 2008 the European Parliament's employment committee approved a controversial Directive putting temporary workers on equal terms with their 'regular' colleagues regarding pay and working hours from their first day of employment.

→ Source: European Parliament | October 7, 2008

→ For further information, please consult the European Parliament website:

http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/expert/infopress_page/048-38811-280-10-41-908-20081006IPR38810-06-10-2008-2008-false/default_en.htm.

BusinessEurope position paper on the ECJ rulings and the Posting of Workers Directive

On October 7, 2008 BusinessEurope published a position paper on the ECJ rulings and the Posting of Workers Directive.

- Source: BusinessEurope | October 7, 2008
- To review BusinessEurope's position paper, please consult the BusinessEurope website:
<http://www.besnesseurope.eu/DocShareNoFrame/docs/1/DLPFMCAGAGAHONLBALOBPPNOJPDBW9DWWD9LTE4Q/UNICE/docs/DLS/2008-01820-E.pdf>.

France and Russia in tune on Europe's security

On October 8, 2008 French President Nicolas Sarkozy and his Russian counterpart, Dmitry Medvedev, turned a new leaf in the Georgia crisis and voiced similar messages about the need to reconstruct Europe's security architecture. Sarkozy proposed that a summit of the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe be held to "discuss (Russian) proposals and those of the European Union for new concepts of pan-European defence." He said this summit could take place before the end of 2009.

- Source: EurActiv | October 9, 2008
- For further information, please consult the EurActiv website: <http://www.euractiv.com/en/enlargement/france-russia-tune-europe-security/article-176187>.

Pressure growing for Macedonia name compromise

Western pressure is growing for Macedonia and Greece to accept a compromise over their 17-year-long name dispute, which has prevented the small nation from joining NATO and advancing on its path to EU integration. A proposal by UN mediator Matthew Nimetz to rename the small republic 'Northern Macedonia' coincided with a visit of US Defence Secretary Robert Gate to the Macedonian city of Ohrid where he urged the country to resolve its dispute with Greece if it wanted to join NATO.

- Source: Associated Press | October 9, 2008
- For further information, please consult the Associated Press website:
http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5jXbLRmEQqXR6JZMv_RYoGU5tc0lwD93MBNB02.

US to lift visa requirements for East Europeans



The United States are set to extend a visa-free regime for a number of East European countries, with the decision likely to be announced as soon as next month. November 17, 2008 has been cited as a possible date for abolishing travel barriers due to its symbolic importance (on the same day in 1989, the former Czechoslovakia saw the beginning of the so-called Velvet Revolution, leading to the collapse of communism there).

- Source: EUobserver | October 10, 2008
- For further information, please consult the EUobserver website: <http://euobserver.com/9/26904/?rk=1>.

EU Maritime Policy: a first year marked by achievements

Precisely one year ago, and after one of the most comprehensive stakeholders consultations ever, the European Commission tabled its proposal for an Integrated EU Maritime Policy. EU Heads of State and Government endorsed the Commission's vision only weeks later at the December European Council under the Portuguese Presidency. The European Commission marks the first anniversary of the Integrated Maritime Policy by reviewing the concrete progress achieved to date. The last twelve months have seen major new initiatives in areas as varied as border surveillance, sustainable tourism, maritime transport strategy, climate change, marine and maritime research strategy, or maritime governance. At the same time, the Commission's services coordinating this policy have been reorganised within DG Maritime Affairs and Fisheries to provide cross-cutting coordination on a regional basis. The Commission plans to launch a number of new policy initiatives in the coming months which will also make an immediate, tangible difference to the way our oceans are managed.

- Source: European Commission | October 10, 2008

- ➔ For further information, please consult the European Commission website:
<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/08/1482&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>.

Revised EU energy strategy to focus on supply security

Even if the EU is successful in building a low-carbon economy with a strong portfolio of renewables, dependence on energy imports will remain high and requires “management”, according to a draft of the European Commission’s second strategic energy review. Greater energy efficiency is given top priority in the review as the “prime means of improving energy security, climate protection and competitiveness all at once”.

- ➔ Source: EurActiv | October 20, 2008
- ➔ For further information, please consult the EurActiv website: <http://www.euractiv.com/en/energy/revised-eu-energy-strategy-focus-supply-security/article-176504>.

Weakened Czech leader pledges EU Treaty ratification



Reeling from a huge political blow in the regional elections of mid-October, Czech centre-right Prime Minister Mirek Topolánek has said that his country - set to chair the EU as of January 2009 - will push forward the ratification of the bloc’s new Lisbon Treaty. “It would be very complicated to talk with the Irish about their ratification process and conditions of the process if we ourselves did not ratify the Lisbon Treaty,” Topolánek said during a visit by German leader Angela Merkel to Prague on October 20, 2008, suggesting he would try his best to deal with the document at national level by the end of this year.

- ➔ Source: CTK Czech News Agency | October 21, 2008
- ➔ For further information, please consult the CTK Agency website: http://www.ceskenoviny.cz/news/index_view.php?id=339774.

MEPs set for clash on Working Time Directive

On October 20, 2008, the European Parliament’s employment committee rejected a hard-fought compromise among Member States, saying it failed to include any of MEPs’ amendments. Following a heated debate that revealed largely diverging views, MEPs concluded that more time was needed to reach agreement with governments.

- ➔ Source: European Parliament | October 21, 2008
- ➔ For further information, please consult the European Parliament website:
http://www.europarl.europa.eu/eplive/expert/shotlist_page/20081103SHL41283/default_en.htm.

Security Europe Euro-View article published by Jorma Hakala, Securitas, Finland and ASSI (Finnish CoESS member)

“Private security is not just a business and should be regulated accordingly - preferably with a pan-EU versus local approach. Governments have a basic responsibility at the national and EU level to protect society from risks, harm and breaches of basic rights, such as privacy. Current national capitals follow this principle when handling private security challenges. But the status of statutory private security regulation was excluded from the EU’s Services Directive. Meanwhile, it seems the EU Commission does not give much priority to this. We think this situation must be changed so that private security is addressed at EU level.”

- ➔ Source: Security Europe | October 21, 2008
- ➔ To review the full article, please consult the Security Europe website:
<http://www.securitycommunity.eu/modules.php?name=News&file=article&sid=88>.

Social partners hail end of agency worker discrimination

On October 22, 2008 the European Parliament approved legislation granting temporary workers equal rights in terms of working hours, salary and holidays, ending a six-year legislative battle. Businesses and trade unions alike welcomed the deal, which they said struck the right balance between social and economic needs.

- ➔ Source: European Parliament | October 22, 2008
- ➔ For further information, please consult the European Parliament website:
http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/expert/infopress_page/048-40237-294-10-43-908-20081021IPR40236-20-10-2008-2008-

[false/default_en.htm](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?type=TA&reference=P6-TA-2008-0507&language=EN&ring=A6-2008-0373) and <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?type=TA&reference=P6-TA-2008-0507&language=EN&ring=A6-2008-0373>.

EU sets communication priorities for 2009

The European Institutions are close to agreeing on three major subjects that they wish to build on next year to reach out to EU citizens. These are the fight against climate change, the June 2009 European elections and significant anniversaries of the reunited Europe. May 1, 2009 marks five years since the 2004 enlargement, while November 9, 2009 sees the twenty-year anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall.

- ➔ Source: European Commission | October 22, 2008
- ➔ For further information, please consult the European Commission website: http://ec.europa.eu/commission_barroso/wallstrom/pdf/press_20081022_en.pdf.

Poland adopts step-by-step Euro entry plan



The Polish government has adopted a detailed timetable designed to replace the Polish zloty with the Euro on January 1, 2012, but question marks remain over a potential referendum on the move. The four-stage plan will kick off in November 2008 when Warsaw appoints a top official to coordinate technical and legal preparations. The first stage will culminate in a change to the Polish constitution and formal agreement on Polish entry with the European Commission and EU Member States in early 2009.

- ➔ Source: EUobserver | October 29, 2008
- ➔ For further information, please consult the EUobserver website: <http://euobserver.com/9/27010/?rk=1>.

Croatia could conclude EU accession talks in 2009

Croatia could conclude accession negotiations with the EU by the end of 2009, if it fulfils the remaining conditions, while Serbia could become an official EU candidate, according to a draft report on the western Balkan countries' progress towards the EU that the European Commission will present early November 2008.

- ➔ Source: EUobserver | October 30, 2008
- ➔ For further information, please consult the EUobserver website: <http://euobserver.com/15/27019>.

Criminal records

On October 24, 2008 interior ministers from the EU's 27 Member States agreed to connect their national criminal records and to make it easier for law-enforcement agencies to gain information from the registers of other Member States.

- ➔ Source: European Voice | October 30, 2008

Denmark plans second Euro vote in 2011



On October 30, 2008 Danish Prime Minister Anders Fogh Rasmussen said he would call a referendum on whether Denmark should join the 15-member Euro zone in 2011, as the global financial turmoil puts the currencies of small countries under unprecedented strain.

- ➔ Source: BBC News | October 31, 2008
- ➔ For further information, please consult the BBC News website: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/7107857.stm>.

For further information on these topics, please contact the General Secretariat

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