



Experts' Meeting on Procedural Rights
Thursday 26 and Friday 27 March 2009

Charlemagne Conference Centre Room S1 *Sicco Mansholt*
Rue de la Loi, 170 - 1040 Brussels

AGENDA

Thursday 26 March

- 09:00 – 09:30** **Arrival and registration of participants**
- 9:30 - 13:00** **Morning session**
Chair: Peter CSONKA, European Commission, Head of Criminal Justice Unit, DG JLS
- 9:30 - 10:00** **Welcome and formal opening**
Presentation of the issues for discussion
Peter CSONKA, European Commission, Head of Criminal Justice Unit, DG JLS
- 10:00 - 10:20** **Presentation of the updating study "Procedural Rights in the European Union" – preliminary findings**
*University of Maastricht, University of Ghent
Taru Spronken /Gert Vermeulen*
- 10:20 - 10:40** **Presentation of "Effective Criminal Defence Rights in Europe" a project funded under the Criminal Justice Programme**

The project aims to provide empirical information on the extent to which procedural rights that are indispensable for an effective defence are provided in 8 Member States and in a candidate country.

Ed Cape
- 10:40 - 11:00** **"Letter of Rights" project funded under the Criminal Justice Programme**
Herr Eberhard Siegismund DE Ministry of Justice
- 11:00 - 11:20** **Austrian project funded under the Criminal Justice Programme assessing pre-trial access to defence rights**

Stefan Schumann
- 11:10 - 11:30** **Coffee break**
- 11:30 - 13:00** **Theme 1 – Is there a need for EU action in this area?**

13:00 - 14:30 **Sandwich lunch offered by the Commission**

14:30 - 17:30 **Afternoon session**

*Chair: Peter CSONKA, European Commission, Head of Criminal Justice Unit,
DG JLS*

14:30 - 15:00 **Theme 2 - Mutual recognition and mutual trust**

What is necessary by way of procedural rights to promote mutual trust?

Gisèle Vernimmen – the ULB study

15:00 - 15:15 Comments from the floor

15:15 - 16:00 **Theme 3 - Cross-border v domestic proceedings**

Discussion on whether any future EU legislation should be limited to cross border cases or should cover all domestic proceedings

16:00 - 16:15 **Coffee break**

16:15 – 16:30 **Possible ways to proceed**

Signe Ohman – SE Ministry of Justice: The SE Presidency plans

16:30 - 17:15 The floor will be open for suggestions

17:30 **End of day 1**

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Friday 27 March

09:00 – 09:30 **Arrival and registration of participants (if any)**

9:30 - 13:00 **Morning session**
*Chair: Francisco Fonseca Morillo- Director- Justice Directorate,
DG-JLS*

9:30 - 10:30 **Round table discussion in which Member States express their wishes in relation to future legislation**

10:30 - 11:00 **Comments from the floor**

11:00 - 11:30 **Coffee break**

11:30 - 12:30 **Round table discussion in which Bar Associations, NGOs and other institutions express their wishes in relation to future legislation**

12:30 - 13:00 **Final comments**

Peter Csonka

13:00 - 14:30 **Lunch in a nearby restaurant offered by the Commission**

14:30 **End of day 2**

