

BULLETIN
No. 383, the 12th of July 2007

In the context of the Ministerial Conference of the Salzburg Forum, taking place in Innsbruck on the 12-13 July 2007, Minister Cristian David had a meeting with the European Commissioner Franco Frattini, the Vice-President of the European Commission.

The two officials approached more issues of interest, the European commissioner appreciating the fact that Romania transmitted the declaration of preparedness regarding the beginning of the evaluation process in view of joining the Schengen area in three domains: police cooperation, visas and personal data protection.

Minister Cristian David informed the European Commissioner of the results of the Informal Conference of the Interior Ministers from the South-Eastern Europe, and the European official appreciated as positive both the Common Declaration adopted in Bucharest and the Action Plan which he considered a welcomed regional initiative, able to ensure the participation of Western Balkans states in the European Projects.

During the bi-lateral meeting there were approached the possibilities of cooperation in the Black Sea Region, in the area of the External Border of the European Union in countering the trans-border crime and illegal migration.

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No. 380, the 12th of July 2007

On the 12-13 July 2007, minister of Interior and Administrative Reform Cristian David is participating in the Ministerial Conference of the Salzburg Forum, taking place in Innsbruck/ Tirol/ Austria.

According to the topics included on the agenda of the Reunion's works, the ministers of the Salzburg Forum member-states, namely Romania, Austria, Bulgaria, Czech, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Hungary and Croatia – as an observer country, together with the other special guests, will exchange ideas and points of view on the following issues:

- the enlargement of the Schengen area;
- the European intelligence network;
- the future European policy in the area of internal affairs, starting with 2010;
- the foreign relationships of the Salzburg Forum;
- EURO2008 (The European Football Championship).

In this context, there will be debated various issues referring to the Prüm Treaty (*a Treaty between the Kingdom of Belgium, FRG, the Kingdom of Spain, the French Republic, The Great Duchy of Luxembourg, the Netherlands and the Republic of Austria on deepening trans-border cooperation, especially in view of countering terrorism, trans-border crimes and illegal migration*), strengthening the European Agency for the Management of the Operational Co-operation at the External Borders of the EU Member-States (FRONTEX), modernization of the European Management System in the Border and Visas domains, strengthening EUROPOL.

As regards the external facet of the Salzburg Forum, minister of Interior and Administrative Reform Cristian David will point out a series of recent achievements regarding Romania's relationships with the Western Balkans states in the internal affairs area, including the bi-lateral dialogue developed in Bucharest and the signing of new documents of international co-operation, on 5-6 July 2007.

The Romanian dignitary will also approach a series of other issues of interest regarding the Brdo process and the Regional SECI Centre for Countering Trans-border Crimes based in Bucharest, another important problem referring to the implementation of the Police Co-operation Convention in the South-Eastern Europe.

At the same time, there will be debated questions related to the co-operation in the Black Sea Region, in close connection with the programmes based on some common projects promoted by the European neighbouring policy.

At the end of the Reunion, the ministers will sign a Common Declaration providing the measures to be taken so as to reach the main targets existing on the European agenda in the area of Justice and Home Affairs.

The participating of Mr. Cristian David in this Ministerial Conference will make possible bi-lateral meetings with the counterpart officials from the Salzburg Forum member-states.

Within the framework of this Reunion, as far as the relationship with Austria is concerned, the following two new documents of bi-lateral co-operation will be concluded:

- *The Memorandum of Agreement between the Ministry of Interior and Administrative Reform from Romania and the Federal Ministry of Interior from the Republic of Austria regarding their bi-lateral cooperation after Romania's EU accession;*
- *The Administrative Convention between the Ministry of Interior and Administrative Reform from Romania and the Federal Ministry of Interior from the Republic of Austria regarding the practical methods for simplified implementation of the Council Regulation (EC) No. 343/2003 from 18 February 2003 for setting the criteria and mechanisms for establishing the member state responsible for analysing an asylum application submitted to a member state by a third-country national (called therein: Administrative Convention).*

By its consistency, this Reunion reconfirms the special attention that the Romanian governmental authorities are paying to the cooperation with the partners of the Salzburg Forum in the JHA area, in connection with the priorities of the Portuguese EU Presidency agenda.