

BULLETIN

No. 21, the 12th of January 2007

Minister Vasile Blaga becomes full member of the JHA Council

- The first reunion of the European Union Council after

Romania's EU accession starts on Sunday -

The Minister of Administration and Interior, Vasile Blaga, is participating – for the first time as a full member – in the Informal Reunion of the “Justice and Home Affairs” Council (JHA Council) of the European Union which will take place in Dresda (Germany) between 14 and 16 of January.

This is the first reunion of the European Union Council after Romania's EU accession and, at the same time, the first meeting where Romanian language will be used, beside the other official languages of the Union.

Started with this reunion, the Romanian minister of Administration and Interior will have the right to vote and the right to get involved in the debates of the Council, organism which manages one of the largest sectors of the European Union activities.

“The JHA domain is one of the most important areas at communitarian level and, for sure, the European citizens have greatest expectations from this field. The total free movement, unthinkable a few years ago, is the biggest achievement that the Romanians have benefited from since our country joined the EU, and this is a consequence of the debates held within this Council”, stated the Romanian minister of Administration and Interior.

Some of the main topics on the JHA Council's agenda are the following ones: the fundamental rights, free movement of people, visa policy, asylum and migration, judiciary co-operation in the civil and criminal matters, police and customs co-operation, countering terrorism and organized crime, combating trafficking in human beings and drug trafficking, the EU citizenship, fight against discrimination etc.

Within the framework of the JHA Council, the ministers of justice and home affairs from the EU member states are approaching issues related to developing and putting into practice the co-operation actions and the joint policies in these fields.

The Council decides unanimously on the great majority of the issues regarding the specific area, after consulting the European Parliament. Nevertheless, some enactments - regarding visas, for example - are passed with qualified majority, within the procedure of consultation or co-decision with the European Parliament.

So far, Minister Vasile Blaga has participated in the reunions of the JHA Council as observer.

On Sunday evening, before the official opening of the Reunion of the JHA Council, Minister Vasile Blaga and his Bulgarian counterpart Rumen Petkov will organize a short ceremony in the context of which they will mark, in a festive way, together with the other European ministers, Romania and Bulgaria's accession to the European Union, under the patronage of the German EU Presidency's representative, the federal home minister Wolfgang Schäuble.

BULLETIN

No. 20, the 11th of January 2007

A few days before the first reunion of the justice and home affairs ministers from the EU member states, which Romania attends as a full EU member state,

The Minister of Administration and Interior Met Peter ALTMAIER, Secretary of State within the German Federal Home Ministry

A German delegation led by Mr. Petere Altmaier, secretary of state within the German Federal Home Ministry was welcome today, the 11.01.2007, at he headquarters of the Ministry of Administration and Interior, by Mr. Vasile Blaga, the Minister of Administration and Interior.

The main topics which were discussed focused on the EU Presidency's priorities in the field of justice and home affairs; in the first semester of 2007 the EU Presidency is held by the Federal Republic of Germany.

The talks between the two officials were held in the context of the fact that a first politic approach, at European level, of these goals will take place in Dresda, on 15-16 January 2007, in the informal presence of the ministers of justice and home affairs from the member states. This reunion will be the first attended by Romania and Bulgaria after they gained the full EU membership.

The German Presidency' priorities aim at attaining the present goals of the European Union, especially in defining the future policies of the Union in the internal affairs area, the global approach of migration, strengthening the

activity of the European Police Office Europol and of the European Agency for the Operational Management of the External Borders Frontex, introducing the Agreement from Prüm into the European acquis and accelerating the completion of the next generation of the Schengen Information System – SIS II.

The leadership of the Ministry of Administration and Interior also approached the issue of the SECI Centre considering Romania's accession into the European Union, as well as the necessity of redefining the goals of this regional centre of police and customs co-operation, for avoiding some parallelisms with other European official structures.

At the same time, Minister Vasile Blaga presented the main national post-accession goals in the fields of justice and home affairs, as regards the Ministry of Administration and Interior, namely: strengthening the effectiveness of the fight against trans-border crime, continuing the process of ensuring a high level of security at the Romanian borders and carrying out the requirements for joining the Schengen territory.

Vasile Blaga also showed that the Ministry of Administration and Interior wants to introduce into the FRONTEX circuit the Summer Academy from Iasi, which offers good training conditions to the European border police. As regards the training area, the Minister of Administration and Interior thanked for the German support which our country further needs, considering that, in order to fill in all the vacancies at the EU outer border managed by Romania, 4,600 persons were employed within the ministry from external sources.

BULLETIN

No. 18, the 11 of January, 2007

UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPT TO BRIBE A POLICE OFFICER

A police officer refused to accept bribe offered for favouring a person investigated in a file within his jurisdiction, denouncing the intention of the briber and acting according to the regulations in operation.

The action of catching the briber in the act was organised by the officers of the General Anti-Corruption Directorate – Teleorman, upon the notification of the policeman within CPI Teleorman, and was carried out with the technical support of the IIPGD and under the co-ordination of the prosecutor assigned by the Prosecutor's Office near Teleorman Court.

All started on the 6th of January 2006, when Iulian S., aged 35, from Teleorman, while driving his own car, ran into a cyclist aged 68, who had come from a side street without assuring that he can safely cross.

Being investigated for having committed involuntary bodily harm, the offender contacted the police agent within the CPI Teleorman who was working at this file, offering him a sum of money in an attempt to make him get away with it.

These circumstances given, the police agent notified the officers of GAD-Teleorman on these facts; the latter organized the action of catching the offender in the act and so, Iulian S. was caught while offering 300 RON to the police agent.

The prosecutor assigned by the Prosecutor's Office near the Teleorman Court disposed the starting of the criminal investigations against Iulian S. on charge of bribery, and disposed, by ordinance, that the offender should not leave the locality.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

During 2006, over 80 police officers refused bribe, refusing - at the same time - not to do/ to faultily do their job, and notified the officers within the General Anti-Corruption Directorate, who organized actions of catching the "bribers" in flagrante delicto.