

BULLETIN
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The Romanians in Spain – a Matter in the Romanian Home Minister’s Attention

This morning, Minister of Interior and Administrative Reform **Cristian DAVID** had a work meeting with the General Director of the General Police Directorate and Guardia Civil of the Spanish Home Ministry **Joan MESQUIDA FERRANDO**, who is currently paying a visit to Romania, on the occasion of the Romanian Police Day.

The two officials highly appreciated the bilateral cooperation developed at the level of the two competent ministries and the two national police forces, as well as the need to initiate new projects which could provide a proper response in preventing and countering criminality generated by the Romanians in Spain.

The representative of the Spanish police stated that in Spain there is an important Romanian community, estimated at approximately 600,000 Romanian citizens and that the great majority of them work legally and do not represent a concern to the Spanish authorities.

The Romanian ministry of interior presented the way in which the new unit to be rendered functional at the level of the Romanian Police will work; this unit will also be able to participate in particular actions beside the law enforcement agencies from the European states whenever the situation created by Romanians requires it.

Minister Cristian David had the initiative of a meeting at the level of experts in order to analyze the various aspects regarding the prevention and countering of criminality.

The two officials scheduled in June a work meeting at the level of experts, on different issues referring to countering crimes, the more so as on holidays Spain represents a tourist zone preferred by the Romanians, and aspects of petty crimes, such as beggary, prostitution and sexual procurement, can also raise.

The meeting also approached other aspects on cooperation in view of outer border securing, as both Romania and Spain have to tackle the management of the EU external borders.

Minister Cristian David launched the invitation for the representatives of the Spanish authorities to participate in the Romanian-Bulgarian common action called EUXIN, which is going to be held at the Black Sea, in cooperation with FRONTEX.

The today meeting emphasizes the determination of the Romanian and Spanish competent authorities to keep on the efforts made so far, as well as to strengthen cooperation not only for countering the criminal activities of the groups including Romanian citizens within the Spanish territory, but also for increasing effectiveness of the fight against trans-border crimes in general.