



MJU-26 (2005) Concl.

26th CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN MINISTERS OF JUSTICE

Helsinki (7-8 April 2005)

Social Aspects of Justice

- . Seeking legal solutions to debt problems in a credit society
- . The social mission of the criminal justice system

Follow-up to Resolution No. 1 on combating terrorism, adopted in Sofia at the 25th Conference of European Ministers of Justice

Draft European prisons charter

Conclusions and Resolutions of the Conference

**Report by the Secretary General
of the Council of Europe**

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Introduction

1. The 26th Conference of European Ministers of Justice was held in Helsinki on 7 and 8 April 2005 at the invitation of the Finnish Government. The agenda, list of participants and Resolutions adopted are set out in Appendices I-III to this report.
2. The Bureaux of the European Committee on Legal Co-operation (CDCJ) and the European Committee on Crime Problems (CDPC), as well as the Senior Officials, held their preparatory meetings on the eve of the Conference.
3. The Minister of Justice of Finland was elected Chair of the Conference. The Ministers of Justice of Bulgaria and Armenia were elected Vice-Chairs.
4. The themes of the Conference were:
 - Social Aspects of Justice
 - . Seeking legal solutions to debt problems in a credit society
 - . The social mission of the criminal justice system
 - Follow-up to Resolution No. 1 on combating terrorism, adopted in Sofia at the 25th Conference of European Ministers of Justice
 - Draft European prisons charter.
5. The main report was submitted by the Minister of Justice of Finland; the Secretary General also submitted a report. The list of documents appears in Appendix IV.
6. The President of the Republic of Finland, Mrs Tarja Halonen, recalled that the central role of the Council of Europe to strengthen human rights, democracy and rule of law is vital. She also underlined the rights of migrants. Mrs Halonen considered that this Conference was a timely reminder of the importance not only of civil and political rights but also of economic, cultural and social rights. In this context, she recalled the serious consequences for society at large of indebtedness and the role the Council of Europe could play in this respect.
7. She also stressed the social functions of the criminal justice system and the necessity to focus attention on the victims and on repairing the damage caused by crime. According to Mrs Halonen, the Council of Europe has to play a central role in the field of restorative justice.
8. Mrs Halonen concluded by stating that if the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) plays an important role in crisis situations, the Council of Europe has specialised in consolidating democratic stability.

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9. On the occasion of the Conference, a number of Council of Europe Conventions were signed and/or ratified; details are provided in Appendix V to this report.

Report by the Secretary General

10. The Deputy Secretary General, Mrs Maud de Boer-Buquicchio, recalled that over-indebtedness is a pan-European challenge and that the Council of Europe is committed to developing common European responses to the problem, and to providing assistance to its member states, when necessary. She considered that good practices and legal measures which already exist in some states must be carefully studied, and that alternative legal and practical solutions must also be looked for.

11. As regards the social mission of the criminal justice system, Mrs de Boer-Buquicchio recalled that the criminal justice system should pay special attention to victims of crime, in particular victims of terrorism.

12. She also mentioned that the revision process of the European Prison Rules of 1987 is underway, taking into account the findings of the Committee for the Prevention of Torture, the case-law of the European Court of Human Rights and the practical experiences of the Council of Europe member states. She called on States to make sure that the revised Rules be adopted as soon as possible. Once this has been done, the Council of Europe will be able to examine in detail the question of a European Prison Charter, as proposed by the Council of Europe's Parliamentary Assembly together with the European Parliament.

13. Mrs de Boer-Buquicchio reported on the Council of Europe's achievements in the field of the fight against terrorism since the 25th Conference of European Ministers of Justice in Sofia. She provided information on conventions and recommendations prepared since October 2003. She called on the participants to support the Council of Europe action in the field of the fight against terrorism in order to ensure the rapid entry into force and concrete implementation of these new instruments. She also called on States to sign and ratify the existing European instruments in this field. While underlining the satisfactory work done since the Sofia Conference, she recalled the necessity to pursue this work.

14. The Deputy Secretary General concluded that the Council of Europe had the tools, the expertise and the flexibility needed to tackle these problems effectively.

15. The presentation of the report by the Secretary General was followed by the presentation of a report by the Minister of Justice of Finland.

Report by the Minister of Justice of Finland

16. The Minister of Justice of Finland, Mr Johannes Koskinen, first of all recalled that amongst the themes brought up at the Conference, the theme relating to social aspects of justice was significant because of the changes that have taken place in European society during the past few years; that is particularly the case of over-indebtedness and restorative justice.

17. In the criminal field, prevention, victim-offender mediation and victim support are also crucial.

18. The Minister also stressed the importance of the fight against terrorism and of the Council of Europe's action in this field.

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19. The representative of the Committee of Ministers, Ambassador Niels-Jørgen Nehring, the representative of the Parliamentary Assembly, Mr Serhiy Holovaty, and the Vice-President of the European Commission, Mr Franco Frattini, made statements to the Ministers. The Vice President of the European Commission welcomed the co-operation with the Council of Europe, suggested the organisation of a European Day against the death penalty and referred to the need to extend our level of preparedness against terrorism.

20. The text of the speeches delivered during the opening Session appears on the Council of Europe website.

Summary of the discussions

21. The European Ministers of Justice held extremely fruitful discussions.

22. Many delegations expressed their gratitude to the Finnish Minister of Justice of Finland for preparing an excellent report on Social aspects of justice. They indicated that this topic is of significant importance for modern societies and that the Council of Europe has a major role to play in seeking a legal solution to the problem of over-indebtedness at a European level. Several delegations recalled that the reasons for debt problems are complex and are not only due to easy access to credit. They recognised the necessity to ensure a proper balance between the interests of creditors and individual debtors.

23. Many delegations welcomed the fact that Council of Europe member states were increasingly introducing ideas of restorative justice into their criminal justice systems; the questions of victim support and of victim-offender mediation are seen as very important areas. Delegations noted that the Council of Europe provides considerable assistance to member states to improve their criminal justice systems in order to introduce features of restorative justice.

24. The Ministers welcomed the work achieved by the Council of Europe in the fight against terrorism, in the framework of the CODEXTER. The Conference reiterated its support for the ongoing work of the Council of Europe in this field.

25. Many delegations welcomed the updating of the European Prison Rules and noted with satisfaction that the drafting procedure would be completed without delay.

26. The Ministers also raised the question of the feasibility and the potential added value of a European Prisons Charter which would ensure consistency and follow-up of prison standards.

27. Under the item « other questions », the Minister of Justice of the Russian Federation proposed the adoption of a resolution on the functioning of the Council of Europe conventions on judicial co-operation in criminal matters.

28. The Chair of the European Commission for the efficiency of justice (CEPEJ), Mr Eberhard Desch, provided information about the work carried out by the CEPEJ.

29. Finally, the Ministers adopted six Resolutions:

- Seeking legal solutions to debt problems in a credit society,
- The social mission of the criminal justice system - Restorative Justice,
- Combating terrorism,
- Updating the European Prison Rules and on the possibility of a European Prisons Charter,
- The functioning of the Council of Europe conventions on judicial co-operation in criminal matters,
- Expressing their warmest thanks to the Finnish Government for the excellent organisation of the Conference and for its kind hospitality and taking note with gratitude of the invitation of the Minister of Justice of Armenia to hold the 27th Conference of European Ministers of Justice in Yerevan, in Autumn 2006.

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30. The Deputy Secretary General paid tribute to the Finnish authorities and thanked them for the excellent organisation of the Conference and the warm welcome extended to participants.

31. The Ministers expressed their gratitude to the Finnish authorities for hosting the Conference, and for their cordial hospitality.

APPENDIX I

AGENDA

1. Opening of the Conference by the Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe, Mrs Maud de Boer-Buquicchio
2. Address by the President of the Republic of Finland, Mrs. Tarja Halonen
3. Address by the Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe
4. Address by the Representative of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe
5. Address by the Representative of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe
6. Address by the Vice-President of the European Commission, Mr Franco Frattini
7. Election of the Chairman and two Vice-Chairmen
8. Adoption of the agenda
9. Social Aspects of Justice
 - . Seeking legal solutions to debt problems in a credit society
 - . The social mission of the criminal justice system
10. Follow-up to Resolution No. 1 on combating terrorism, adopted in Sofia at the 25th Conference of European Ministers of Justice
11. Draft European prisons charter
12. Other questions
13. Adoption of resolutions
14. Close of the Conference

APPENDIX II

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

ALBANIA/ALBANIE :

- Mr Fatmir XHAFAJ, Minister of Justice.
- Mr Agri VERRIA, Advisor to the Minister of Justice.
- Mr Enik POGACE, Foreign Affairs Expert, Ministry of Justice.
- Ms Eglantina LALA, Foreign Affairs Expert, Ministry of Justice.

ANDORRA/ANDORRE :

- Excusé/Apologised.

ARMENIA/ARMÉNIE :

- Mr Davit HARUTYUNYAN, Minister of Justice.
- Mr Tigran MUKUCHYAN, Deputy Minister of Justice.
- Mr Hayk KHEMCHYAN, Head of Division for Penitentiary Reforms, Ministry of Justice.

AUSTRIA/AUTRICHE :

- Ms Karin MIKLAUTSCH, Federal Minister of Justice.
- Mr Michael SCHÖN, Head of Cabinet, Ministry of Justice.
- Ms Irene KÖCK, Ministry of Justice.
- Mr Franz MOHR, Ministry of Justice.

AZERBAIJAN/AZERBAÏDJAN :

- Mr Fikrat MAMMADOV, Minister of Justice.
- Mr Faig GURBANOV, Head of Department, Ministry of Justice.

BELGIUM/BELGIQUE :

- Mr Claude DEBRULLE, Directeur Général, Direction Générale Législation, Libertés et Droits fondamentaux, Ministère de la Justice, Président du CDPC.
- Mr Gérard DIVE, Conseiller de la Ministre pour le droit international, Cabinet de la Ministre de la Justice.
- Mme Roseline DEMOUSTIER, Directrice Générale en charge du secteur Droit des personnes au sein de la Direction Générale Législation, Libertés et Droits fondamentaux, Ministère de la Justice.

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA / BOSNIE-HERZÉGOVINE :

- Mr Slobodan KOVAČ, Minister of Justice of Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- Ms Biljana PJEŠČIĆ, Administrator, Ministry of Justice of Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- Mr Miroslav STAROVLAH, Interpreter, Ministry of Justice of Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- Mr Džerard SELMAN, Minister of Justice of Republika Srpska.

BULGARIA/BULGARIE :

- Mr Anton STANKOV, Minister of Justice.
- Mr Peter RASHKOV, Director of International Legal integration, European Union Assistance and International Legal Assistance Directorate, Ministry of Justice.
- Ms Mitka ZAHARLIEVA, State Expert, international Legal Cooperationm European Integration and International Legal Assistance Directorate, Ministry of Justice..

CROATIA/CROATIE :

- Ms Vesna ŠKARE OŽBOLT, Minister of Justice.
- Ms Ljiljana PANCIROV, Minister plenipotentiary.
- Mr Željko HORVATIĆ, Adviser to the Minister of Justice for criminal law.
- Ms Ljiljana VODOPIJA EENGIC, Assistant Minister, Ministry of Justice.

CYPRUS/CHYPRE :

- Mr Doros THEODOROU, Minister of Justice and Public Order.
- Ms Ekaterini ANDREOU, Senior Official on Legal Affairs, Ministry of Justice and Public Order.

CZECH REPUBLIC/RÉPUBLIQUE TCHÈQUE :

- Mr Pavel NĚMEC, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Justice.
- Mr Roman POLÁŠEK, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Justice.
- Mr Pavel ŠKVÁRA, Director General of the Cabinet of the Minister, Ministry of Justice.
- Mr Petr DIMUN, Director of Press Department and Spokesman of the Minister.
- Ms Helena REJHOLCOVA, Interpreter.
- Mr David PACOLA, Security Officer.
- Mr Josef URBAN, Security Officer.

DENMARK/DANEMARK :

- Mme Helle Hübertz KROGSØE, Chef de section, Division de Justice Pénale, Ministère de la Justice.
- M. Ib Hounsgaard TRABJERG, Chef de section, Division du Droit Procédural, Ministère de la Justice.

ESTONIA/ESTONIE :

- Mr Martin HIRVOJA, Deputy Secretary General, Ministry of Justice.
- Mr Urmas VOLENS, Head of the Private Law Division, Ministry of Justice.

FINLAND/FINLANDE :

- Mr Johannes KOSKINEN, Minister of Justice.
- Ms Kirsti RISSANEN, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Justice.
- Mr Pekka NURMI, Director General, Ministry of Justice.
- Mr Juha KERANEN, Ministerial Counsellor, Ministry of Justice.

FRANCE :

- Mme Nicole GUEDJ, Secrétaire d'Etat aux Droits des victimes, auprès du Garde des Sceaux, Ministère de la Justice.
- M. Jean-Jacques SUBRENAT, Ambassadeur de France à Helsinki.

- M. Jean-Bernard BOLVIN, Conseiller pour les Affaires Internationales et les Droits de l'Homme, Ministère de la Justice.
- M. Eric RUELLE, Chef du Bureau des négociations pénales, Ministère de la Justice.
- M. Tomas MACEK, Premier Secrétaire, Ambassade de France à Helsinki.
- M. Xavier BENARDEAU, Officier de Sécurité.

GEORGIA/GÉORGIE :

- Mr Konstantine KEMULARIA, Minister of Justice.
- Mr Eka TKECHELACHVILI, Deputy Minister of Justice.

GERMANY/ALLEMAGNE :

- Ms Brigitte ZYPRIES, Minister of Justice.
- Mr Christian LEHMANN, Deputy Director General of Criminal Affairs, Criminal Department, Ministry of Justice.
- Mr Eberhard DESCH, Head of Division of International Law, Ministry of Justice.
- Ms Alexandra ALBRECHT, Personal Secretary of the Minister of Justice.
- Ms Heidi FRIEDRICH, Embassy Representative.

GREECE/GRÈCE :

- Mr Anastasios P. PAPALIGOURAS, Minister of Justice.
- Mr Lysander MIGLIARESSIS-PHOCAS, Ambassador of Greece in Finland.
- Mr Angelo ANDROULIDAKIS, Adviser to the Minister of Justice.
- Mr Athanasios PATLIAS, Security Officer.

HUNGARY/HONGRIE :

- Mr József PETRÉTEI, Minister of Justice.
- Mr Lipót HÖLTZL, Deputy Secretary of State, Ministry of Justice.
- Ms Erika PLANKÓ, Deputy Secretary of State, Ministry of Justice.
- Mr Ildikó VÁRKONYI, Interpreter.

ICELAND/ISLANDE :

- Mr Björn BJARNASON, Minister of Justice and Ecclesiastical Affairs.
- Ms Ragna ÁRNADÓTTIR, Director of Legal Affairs, Ministry of Justice and Ecclesiastical Affairs.

IRELAND/IRLANDE :

- Mr Frank FAHEY, Minister of State, Department of Justice, Equality & Law Reform.
- Ms Caroline MURPHY, Assistant Principal, Justice Department.
- Ms Kate MURRAY, Private Secretary.
- Mr James MARTIN, Assistant Secretary.

ITALY/ITALIE :

- Mr Luigi VITALI, Under-Secretary of State, Ministry of Justice.
- Mr Ugo G. DE MOHR, Ambassador.
- Mr Carlo CORTI, Head of International Affairs Office, Ministry of Justice.
- Mr Giuseppe CAPOCCIA, Head of Study, Researches, Law and International Relationships Office, Ministry of Justice.
- Mr Biagio Roberto CIMINI, Head of Law and International Affairs, Criminal Law Directorate, Ministry of Justice.

- Ms Francesca GIAQUINTO, Criminal Law Directorate, Ministry of Justice.
- Mr Giorgio TABORRI, First Secretary.
- Mr Paolo PALMINTERI, Second Secretary.
- Mr Antonio ANDRIULO, Criminal Law Directorate, Ministry of Justice.

LATVIA/LETTONIE :

- Ms Solvita ABOLTINA, Minister of Justice.
- Ms Ilze JUHANSONE, Deputy State Secretary, Ministry of Justice.
- Mr Aleksandrs DEMENTJEVS, Director of State Probation Service.
- Ms Laila MEDIN, Director of Department of Policy Planning, Ministry of Justice.

LIECHTENSTEIN :

- Mr Daniel OSPELT, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Liechtenstein to the Council of Europe.

LITHUANIA/LITUANIE :

- Mr Gintautas BUŽINSKAS, Minister of Justice.
- Ms Ausra BERNOTIENE, Director of the Department of International Law, Ministry of Justice.

LUXEMBOURG :

- M. Marc MATHÉKOWITSCH, Premier Conseiller de Gouvernement, Ministère de la Justice.
- Mme Katia KREMER, Conseiller de Direction Adjoint, Ministère de la Justice.

MALTA/MALTE :

- Mr Carmelo BONNICI, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry for Justice and Home Affairs.
- Mr Marco CACHIA, Head of Secretariat, Ministry for Justice and Home Affairs.

MOLDOVA :

- Ms Victoria IFTODI, Minister of Justice.
- Mr Vitalie PÂRLOG, Head of International Relations and European Integration Department, Ministry of Justice.
- Ms Natalia SUCEVEANU, Head of International Treaties and European Integration General Division, Ministry of Justice.

MONACO :

- Excusé/Apologised.

NETHERLANDS/PAYS-BAS :

- Mr Piet Hein DONNER, Minister of Justice.
- Mr Geert LANKHORST, Senior Administrator of the Unit Access to Justice, Ministry of Justice.
- Mr Arie IJZERMAN, Deputy Director General of International Affairs and Immigration Department, Ministry of Justice.
- Mr Victor JAMMERS, Deputy Director of Sanctions and Prevention Policy Department, Ministry of Justice.
- Mr Erik BEZEM, Head of the Unit Probation Policy Department, Ministry of Justice.

- Mr Sjaak JANSEN, Coordinating Counsellor of Legislation, International Affairs Section, Ministry of Justice, Vice-Chair of the Bureau of the CDCJ.
- Mr Gerard DE BOER, Legal Adviser, Permanent Representation of the Netherlands in Strasbourg (France).

NORWAY/NORVÈGE :

- Mr Odd Einar DØRUM, Minister of Justice.
- Ms Kristin Bølgen BRONEBAKK, Director General, Ministry of Justice.
- Mr Inge Lorange BACKER, Director General of the Legislation Department, Ministry of Justice, Chairman of the CDCJ.
- Mr Fredrik BØCKMAN FINSTAD, Acting Legal Adviser, Legislation Department, Ministry of Justice.

POLAND/POLOGNE :

- Mr Andrzej KALWAS, Minister of Justice.
- Mr Sylwester KRÓLAK, Deputy Minister of Justice.
- Mr Marek ŁUKASZEWICZ, Director of the Ministers' Office.
- Mr Igor DZIALUK, Director of the International Co-operation and European Law Department, Ministry of Justice.
- Mr Stanislaw STEBELSKI, Ambassador of Poland in Helsinki.
- Mr Andrzej JASIONOWSKI, Counsellor.
- Mr Piotr PASZKOWSKI, Interpreter.

PORTUGAL :

- Mr João SILVA LEITÃO, Ambassador of Portugal in Helsinki.
- Ms Luisa Maia GONÇALVES, Head of Department, Bureau of International Relations, Ministry of Justice.

ROMANIA/ROUMANIE :

- Ms Monica Luisa MACOVEI, Minister of Justice.
- Mr Dan TAPALAGA, Personal Counsellor of the Minister of Justice.
- Mr Florin RĂZVAN RADU, Director, Ministry of Justice.
- Mr Dan Nicolae TUDOR, Consul.
- Mr Marius ALDEA, Security Officer.

RUSSIAN FEDERATION/FEDERATION DE RUSSIE :

- Mr Yury Y. CHAYKA, Minister of Justice.
- Mr Serguey MALUSHA, Deputy Director of the Administrative Department of the Government.
- Mr Anatoly Vladimirovich PALAMARCHUCK, Director of the Economic Legislation Department, Ministry of Justice.
- Mr Vladimir Petrovich ZIMIN, Deputy Director of the International Law and Cooperation Department, Ministry of Justice.
- Mr Serguey BULAVIN, Head of Legal Department President Administration, Ministry of Justice.
- Mr Vladimir Ivanovich MICHTCHENKO, Counsellor of the Minister of Justice.

SAN MARINO/SAINT-MARIN :

- Excusé/Apologised.

SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO / SERBIE-MONTÉNÉGRO :

- Mr Zoran STOJKOVIC, Minister of Justice of Serbia.
- Ms Vera KOLAREVIC, Chief of Cabinet, Ministry of Justice.
- Mr Vladimir DAVIDOVIC, Legal Adviser, Ministry of Justice.
- Ms Danica KRALJEVIC, Interpreter.
- Mr Zeljko STURANOVIC, Minister of Justice of Montenegro.
- Ms Branca LAKOCEVIC, Deputy Minister.
- Ms Jadranka DJURKOVIC, Interpreter.

SLOVAK REPUBLIC/RÉPUBLIQUE SLOVAQUE :

- Mr Daniel LIPŠIC, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Justice.
- Ms Viera ŠTUPÁKOVÁ, Ambassador of the Slovak Republic in Helsinki.
- Mr Branislav BOHACIK, Director, Division for Judicial Co-operation in Criminal Matters, Ministry of Justice, Vice-Chair of the CDPC.
- Ms Jana VNUKOVA, Director of international relations and human rights Division, Ministry of Justice.
- Mr Oto LOBODAS, Director General of Prison Administration.
- Mr Frantisek KISS, Security Officer.

SLOVENIA/SLOVÉNIE :

- Mr Lovro ŠTURM, Minister of Justice.
- Mr Janko KOREN, Head of the Minister's Office, Ministry of Justice.

SPAIN/ESPAGNE :

- Mme Ana María DE MIGUEL LANGA, Vice-Ministre de la Justice.
- M. Jose Antonio BORDALLO, Directeur Général de la Coopération Juridique Internationale, Ministère de la Justice.
- M. Alfredo PASCUAL, Conseiller Technique de la Coopération Juridique Internationale, Ministère de la Justice.
- M. Antonio GARCIA ABAD, Ambassadeur d'Espagne à Helsinki.

SWEDEN/SUÈDE :

- Mr Dan ELIASSON, State Secretary.
- Ms Helena JÄDERBLOM, Director, Ministry of Justice.
- Mr Magnus HOLMÉN, Special Adviser, Ministry of Justice.

SWITZERLAND/SUISSE :

- M. Christoph BLOCHER, Conseiller Fédéral, Chef du Département fédéral de justice et police.
- M. Heinrich KOLLER, Directeur de l'Office fédéral de la justice.
- M. Philippe BOILLAT, Sous-Directeur de l'Office fédéral de la justice.
- Mme Corine BLESIG, Conseiller Diplomatique.

**"THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA"/
"L'EX-RÉPUBLIQUE YOUGOSLAVE DE MACÉDOINE" :**

- Excusé/Apologised.

TURKEY/TURQUIE :

- Mr Cemil ÇİÇEK, Minister of Justice.
- Ms Esin ÖZBILGIN, Judge, International Law and Foreign Relations, Ministry of Justice.
- Mr Sener DALYAN, Judge, International Law and Foreign Relations, Ministry of Justice.
- Mr Osman PAKSÜT, Ambassador of Turkey in Finland.
- Mr Ferda AKKERMAN, Counsellor, Embassy of Turkey in Finland.
- Mr Serkan GEDIK, Second Secretary, Embassy of Turkey in Finland.

UKRAINE :

- Mr Roman ZVARYCH, Minister of Justice.
- Ms Olena ZERKAL, Director of the Department, Ministry of Justice.
- Mr Rustam AZHDAR, Second Secretary, Embassy of Ukraine in Finland.

UNITED KINGDOM/ROYAUME-UNI :

- Baroness Patricia SCOTLAND OF ASTHAL QC, Minister of State for the Criminal Justice System and Law Reform.
- Mr Richard BRADLEY, Head of Judicial Co-operation Unit, Home Office.
- Mr Edwin KILBY, Head of European Policy Unit, Department for Constitutional Affairs, Lord Chancellor's Department,
- Ms Anna HODGSON, Conseillère, Section de la politique criminelle et en matière de corruption, Home Office, Unité des Infractions et des sanctions.
- Ms Tracy STANHOPE, Inservancy Service.

EUROPEAN COMMISSION/COMMISSION EUROPÉENNE :

- M. Franco FRATTINI, Vice-Président de la Commission européenne, en charge de la justice, de la liberté et de la sécurité / Vice-President of the European Commission, responsible for Justice, Freedom and Security.
- M. Lorenzo SALAZAR, Magistrat, membre du Cabinet de M. Frattini.
- M. Claudio PERGOLA, officier de sécurité.

**SECRETARIAT GENERAL OF THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN
UNION/SECRÉTARIAT GÉNÉRAL DU CONSEIL DE L'UNION
EUROPÉENNE :**

- Mr Ivan BIZJAK, Directeur Général, DG Justice et Affaires intérieures.

COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS/COMITÉ DES MINISTRES :

- Mr Niels-Jørgen NEHRING, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Denmark to the Council of Europe, Chairman of the Rapporteur Group on Legal Co-operation.

PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY/ASSEMBLÉE PARLEMENTAIRE :

- M. Serhiy HOLOVATY, Président de la Commission des questions juridiques et des droits de l'homme.

EUROPEAN COMMITTEE ON LEGAL CO-OPERATION /(CDCJ)

COMITÉ EUROPÉEN DE COOPÉRATION JURIDIQUE (Bureau) :

- Mr Inge Lorange BACKER, Chairman of the CDCJ, Director General of the Legislation Department, Ministry of Justice (Norway).
- Mme Roseline DEMOUSTIER, Directeur Général, Service public fédéral Justice, Ministère de la Justice (Belgique).
- Mr Sjaak JANSEN, Coordinating Counsellor of Legislation, International Affairs Section, Ministry of Justice, Vice-Chair of the CDCJ (Netherlands).
- Mr Pekka NURMI, Director General, Ministry of Justice (Finland).
- Mr Peter RASHKOV, Director of International Legal integration, European Union Assistance and International Legal Assistance Directorate, Ministry of Justice (Bulgarie).
- Mme Xenia SKORINI-PAPARRIGOPOULOU, Professeur associé, Faculté de Droit d'Athènes (Grèce).

EUROPEAN COMMITTEE ON CRIME PROBLEMS /(CDPC)/

COMITÉ EUROPÉEN POUR LES PROBLÈMES CRIMINELS (Bureau) :

- M. Mario AFFENTRANGER, Chef de la Section des Traités Internationaux, Office Fédéral de la Justice (Suisse).
- Mr Branislav BOHACIK, Vice-Chair of the CDPC, Director, Division for Judicial Co-operation in Criminal Matters, Ministry of Justice, (Slovak Republic).
- Mr Richard BRADLEY, Head of Judicial Co-operation Unit, Home Office (United Kingdom).
- M. Claude DEBRULLE, Président du CDPC, Directeur Général, Direction Générale de la Législation, des Libertés et des Droits fondamentaux, Ministère de la Justice (Belgique).
- Ms Andreja LANG, Under-Secretary, Head of the Department for Criminal Legislation, Counsellor to the Government, Ministry of Justice (Slovenia).
- Mr Roland MIKLAU, Director General for Penal Legislation, Federal Ministry of Justice (Austria).
- Mr Esa VESTERBACKA, Director General, Head of Department, Ministry of Justice (Finland).

EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR THE EFFICIENCY OF JUSTICE (CEPEJ)/

COMMISSION EUROPÉENNE POUR L'EFFICACITÉ DE LA JUSTICE

- Mr Eberhard DESCH, Chair of CEPEJ, Head of Division of International Law, Ministry of Justice (Germany).

OBSERVERS/OBSERVATEURS

HOLY SEE/SAINT-SIÈGE :

- S. E. Mgr Józef WRÓBEL, Evêque de Helsinki.
- R. Père Jan STUYT, S.J., « Jesuit Refugee Service » à Bruxelles (Belgique).

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA/ÉTATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE :

- Excusé/Apologised.

CANADA :

- Excusé/Apologised.

JAPAN/JAPON :

- Excusé/Apologised.

MEXICO/MEXIQUE :

- Excusé/Apologised.

**INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS/
ORGANISATIONS INTERNATIONALES**

**COMMONWEALTH OF INDEPENDENT STATES /
COMMUNAUTÉ DES ÉTATS INDÉPENDANTS**

- Mr Mikalai UNHEVIONAK, Councillor.

**THE HAGUE CONFERENCE ON PRIVATE INTERNATIONAL LAW/
CONFÉRENCE DE LA HAYE DE DROIT INTERNATIONAL PRIVÉ :**

- Mr Hans VAN LOON, Secretary General.

UNIDROIT :

- Excusé/Apologised.

**SECRETARIAT GENERAL OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE/
SECRÉTARIAT GENERAL DU CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE :**

- Ms Maud de BOER-BUQUICCHIO, Deputy Secretary General.

**PRIVATE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARIES GENERAL/
CABINET DES SECRÉTAIRES GÉNÉRAUX :**

- M. Jarek POREJSKI, Administrator.

**DIRECTORATE GENERAL I - LEGAL AFFAIRS/DIRECTION GÉNÉRALE I -
AFFAIRES JURIDIQUES :**

- M. Guy DE VEL, Directeur Général des Affaires Juridiques.
- Ms Margaret KILLERBY, Chef du Service des Problèmes Criminels.
- M. Alexey KOJEMIAKOV, Chef du Service de Droit Privé.
- Ms Bridget O'LOUGHLIN, Chef de la Division de la Justice Pénale, Secrétaire du CDPC.
- M. Rafael A. BENITEZ, Chef de la Task Force contre le terrorisme, Adjoint au Chef du Service du droit public.
- M. Patrick TITIUN, Secrétaire de la Conférence.
- Mme Catherine GALLAIS, Assistante administrative principale.
- Mme Liliane CAMPANA, Assistante administrative.
- Mme Claire ROBINS, Secrétaire.
- Mme Christiane DECONINCK, Secrétaire.

**SECRETARIAT OF THE COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS/
SECRÉTARIAT DU COMITÉ DES MINISTRES :**

- Ms Ulrika FLODIN-JANSON, Administratrice.

**SECRETARIAT GENERAL OF THE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY/
SECRÉTARIAT GÉNÉRAL DE L'ASSEMBLÉE PARLEMENTAIRE :**

- Mme Valérie CLAMER, co-secrétaire de la Commission des questions juridiques et des droits de l'homme.

PROTOCOL/PROTOCOLE :

- Mlle Isabelle FLECKSTEINER, Assistante du Directeur du Protocole.

PRESS AND INFORMATION/PRESSE ET INFORMATION :

- Ms Seda PUMPYANSKAYA, Director of Communication and Research.
- Mr Can FISEK, Administrator, Press Officer.
- Mr Arne MADSEN, Council of Europe Press Correspondant for the Nordic Countries.

LANGUAGE SERVICES/SERVICES DES LANGUES :

- M. Philippe QUAINÉ, Chef de l'équipe des interprètes.

INTERPRETERS/INTERPRÈTES :

M. Massimo CAMPAGNOLA.
Mme Daniela CODARIN.
M. Jason Mathew GARNER.
M. Rino GELMI.
M. Georg KIENINGER.
Mme Raphaëla MANNHEIM-DUBA.
Mme Anne MILES.
M. Juan-Luis MORENO.
M. Alexei REPIN.
Mme Nelly SIDERIS.

APPENDIX III

ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 1

on Seeking Legal Solutions to Debt Problems in a Credit Society

THE MINISTERS participating in the 26th Conference of European Ministers of Justice (Helsinki, 7 and 8 April 2005);

1. Having examined the Report of the Minister of Justice of Finland on seeking legal solutions to debt problems in a credit society as well as the contributions made by a number of delegations;
2. Underlining that a sufficient consumer credit market and effective lending promote economic growth and that it is important to strike a balance between the interests of the debtor and the creditor in a credit relationship;
3. Concerned about the problems arising in today's credit society due *inter alia* to the easy access to credit that can in some cases result in the over-indebtedness of households creating social exclusion of individuals and their families;
4. Underlining the importance of preventing problems arising from over-indebtedness and, where necessary, seeking solutions to enhance the proper prevention and management of debt problems, as well as the sense of responsibility of creditors and the individual debtors;
5. Convinced that the Council of Europe has an important role to play in this context, and a responsibility to assist all member states to find alternative solutions to avoid over-indebtedness through various means such as financial advice and education, as well as management of debt;
6. Being aware of the various legal means, institutions and good-practices that already exist in certain Council of Europe member states, aiming at avoiding over-indebtedness and providing alternative means of dispute resolution, and of debt enforcement measures;
7. Bearing in mind the European Convention on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and the Convention for the Protection of Individuals with regard to Automatic Processing of Personal Data (ETS No.108);
8. Recalling Resolution No. 3 on "The general approach and means of achieving effective enforcement of judicial decisions", adopted at their 24th Conference in Moscow in October 2001 and the Committee of Ministers Recommendations Rec(2003)16 and Rec(2003)17 on this subject;

9. Recalling the increasing attention paid in the European Union to the principle of responsible lending in the consumer credit market and to the other minimum harmonisation of consumer credit provisions (COM (2004) 747);

10. AGREE on the importance to take measures to seek legal and practical solutions to debt problems encountered by citizens in a credit society;

11. RECALL the necessity to pay particular attention to prevention and proper management of debt problems, as well as the role of statutory institutions and non-governmental organisations involved;

12. INVITE the Committee of Ministers to entrust the European Committee on Legal Co-operation (CDCJ), in co-operation with other competent instances of the Council of Europe to:

- analyse existing legislation and good practices;
- identify the difficulties met;
- prepare an appropriate instrument defining legislative and administrative measures, and proposing practical remedies;
- consider, when preparing such an instrument, the role of competent instances in particular courts, administrative authorities, and non-governmental organisations involved;
- consider ways of providing assistance to member states in the application of this instrument and, where necessary, make appropriate proposals to the Committee of Ministers.

Resolution No. 2

on The Social Mission of the Criminal Justice System - Restorative Justice

THE MINISTERS participating in the 26th Conference of European Ministers of Justice (Helsinki, 7 and 8 April 2005);

1. Having examined the report of the Minister of Justice of Finland on the social mission of the criminal justice system;
2. Considering that it is of great importance for social peace to promote a criminal policy which focuses also on the prevention of anti-social and criminal behaviour, the development of community sanctions and measures, the victim's needs and offender reintegration;
3. Noting that the use of imprisonment causes a heavy burden on society and causes human suffering;
4. Considering that community sanctions and measures as well as restorative justice measures can have a positive effect on the social costs of crime and crime control;
5. Convinced that by a restorative justice approach the interests of crime victims may often be better served, the possibilities for offenders to achieve a successful integration into society be increased and public confidence in the criminal justice system be thereby enhanced;
6. Bearing in mind that the purpose of restorative justice is also to decrease the number of proceedings before the criminal courts and that alternative non-judicial systems for restorative justice should be developed as far as possible within the national context;
7. Considering that prison sentences cannot always be avoided but that the treatment and management of prisoners can also benefit, inter alia, from the restorative justice approach so as to promote successful reintegration of the offender;
8. Considering that the restorative justice approach should be developed both in the framework of community measures as well as in all stages of criminal justice procedure, including restorative justice measures applied during and after imprisonment;
9. Considering that the prevention of crime, support and compensation for crime victims, and reintegrating sentenced offenders requires a multidisciplinary and/or multi-agency approach;

10. Aware of the need to design particular strategies to address the specific needs of vulnerable groups of victims and offenders;
11. Aware of the particular situation in some countries where the criminal justice system is currently undergoing substantial reforms, and that these countries may be in particular need of technical assistance to carry out these reforms;
12. Bearing in mind the importance of the principles contained in existing relevant international instruments;
13. Recalling the Council of Europe Recommendations of relevance in this field;
14. Recalling the European Convention on Compensation to Victims of Violent Crimes;
15. AGREE on the importance of promoting the restorative justice approach in their criminal justice systems;
16. ENCOURAGE the continuing work of the European Committee for Crime Problems (CDPC) in:
 - updating the European Prison Rules;
 - addressing the needs of victims of crime, including victims of terrorism and of serious violations of international humanitarian law;
 - examining means of enhancing crime prevention policies;
17. FURTHER ENCOURAGE the work of the Council of Europe in conducting a multidisciplinary project on violence and children;
18. INVITE the CDPC to prepare, in accordance with Recommendation Rec(2003)20, an instrument with a view to developing comprehensive standards governing sanctions and measures for dealing with juvenile offenders;
19. INVITE the Committee of Ministers to further entrust the CDPC to examine the issue of probation and post prison assistance with a view to addressing the need to develop the role of probation services;
20. INVITE the Committee of Ministers to ask the CDPC to give further consideration to the possibility of preparing one or more instruments to address the needs of groups of vulnerable victims and/or offenders;
21. FURTHER INVITE the Committee of Ministers to support and develop co-operation programmes put in place to promote the widespread application of restorative justice in the member countries, on the basis of the Council of Europe's Recommendations in this field;

22. ASK the Secretary General of the Council of Europe to report on the steps taken to give effect to this Resolution, on the occasion of their next Conference.

Resolution No. 3
on Combating Terrorism

THE MINISTERS participating in the 26th Conference of European Ministers of Justice (Helsinki, 7 and 8 April 2005);

1. Concerned by the threats posed by terrorism to the core values on which Europe is based, namely pluralist democracy, the rule of law and the protection of fundamental rights and freedoms;
2. Deploring the loss of life and the injuries suffered by thousands of innocent people as a result of terrorism;
3. Condemning all terrorist attacks and reaffirming their determination to combat all forms of terrorism while fully respecting human rights;
4. Aware that concerted international action is vital to success in the fight against the scourge of terrorism, including action aiming, where appropriate, at preventing or remedying situations which may foster terrorism;
5. Recalling the importance of the international instruments against terrorism and, in this respect, welcoming the finalisation within the United Nations at expert level of the draft International Convention for the suppression of acts of nuclear terrorism;
6. Welcoming the efforts of international organisations and institutions to fight against terrorism under the aegis of the United Nations Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC);
7. Welcoming the co-operation between the Council of Europe and these organisations and institutions, in particular the European Union, the OSCE and the United Nations;
8. Recalling the relevant texts adopted by the Parliamentary Assembly;
9. Bearing in mind Resolution No. 1 adopted at their 24th Conference (Moscow, 4-5 October 2001) and Resolution No. 1 adopted at their 25th Conference (Sofia, 9-10 October 2003) as well as the report of the Secretary General concerning the follow-up given to this Resolution;
10. Bearing in mind the Resolution adopted at the Third High Level multilateral meeting of Ministries of Interior on the theme of the “Fight against terrorism and organised crime to improve security in Europe” (Warsaw, 17-18 March 2005);

11. Bearing in mind the report prepared under the aegis of the European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice (CEPEJ) on the effectiveness of national judicial systems in their responses to terrorism;
12. Resolved to pursue their efforts to reinforce the fight against terrorism and to increase the security of citizens, in a spirit of solidarity and on the basis of the core values to which the Council of Europe is firmly committed: the rule of law, human rights and pluralist democracy;
13. Recalling the Guidelines on Human Rights and the Fight against Terrorism adopted by the Committee of Ministers in July 2002;
14. Convinced of the need to continue to strengthen international co-operation;
15. Noting the importance in this regard of the Third Summit of the Heads of States and Governments of the Council of Europe, which will be held in Warsaw in May 2005, and of the impetus which it will add to the future work of the Council of Europe in the fight against terrorism;

* * *

16. WELCOME the progress achieved by the Council of Europe in the implementation of the priority activities against terrorism, in particular the elaboration of two new conventions respectively on the Prevention of Terrorism, and on Laundering, Search, Seizure and Confiscation of Proceeds from Crime and on the Financing of Terrorism, as well as three new Recommendations of the Committee of Ministers to member states on Special Investigative Techniques, Protection of Witnesses and Collaborators of Justice, and on Identity and Travel Documents and Terrorism, and in this connection;
17. WELCOME the adoption by the Committee of Ministers of the Recommendation on Identity and Travel Documents and the Fight against Terrorism and CALL UPON the Committee of Ministers to adopt, at an early date, the two above-mentioned Conventions, in order to allow as far as possible their opening for signature at the Third Summit of the Heads of States and Governments of the Council of Europe, as well as to adopt, as soon as possible, the remaining Recommendations ;
18. WELCOME the adoption by the Committee of Ministers of the Guidelines on the Protection of Victims of Terrorist Acts and the Declaration on Media and Terrorism in March 2005;
19. WELCOME the work of the Committee of Experts on Terrorism (CODEXTER) in coordinating the work of the Council of Europe against terrorism in the legal field;

20. WELCOME the contribution of the European Committee on Crime Problems (CDPC) and its subordinated committees the Committee of Experts on the protection of witnesses and collaborators of justice (PC-PW), the Committee of Experts on special investigation techniques (PC-TI) and the Committee of Experts on the revision of the Convention on Laundering, Search, Seizure and Confiscation of the proceeds from crime laundering (PC-RM), as well as of the European Committee on Legal Co-operation (CDCJ) to the implementation of the priority activities of the Council of Europe against terrorism in their respective fields of competence;
21. WELCOME the number of signatures and ratifications to the Protocol Amending the European Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism (ETS No. 190) whilst regretting that this new instrument has not yet entered into force, and therefore,
22. CALL UPON the member states of the Council of Europe to become Parties to this Protocol so as to ensure its entry into force as soon as possible, and INVITE observer states to become Parties to the European Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism, as revised by its amending Protocol, as soon as possible thereafter;
23. INVITE those states which have not yet done so to become Parties to other instruments of the Council of Europe which facilitate measures against terrorism, in particular the Convention on Cybercrime (ETS No. 185), the Conventions on Corruption (ETS No. 173 and ETS No. 174) and the 2nd Additional Protocol to the European Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters (ETS No. 182);
24. WELCOME the large number of member states of the Council of Europe which have become Parties to international treaties on terrorism, in particular, those concluded in the framework of the United Nations, as well as to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;
25. INVITE those states which have not yet done so to become Parties as soon as possible to these instruments and to ensure their effective implementation in pursuance of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1373 (2001);
26. CALL upon all member states to contribute to resolving the outstanding issues in negotiations within the United Nations on the draft Comprehensive Convention against terrorism;
27. WELCOME the work of MONEYVAL regarding the evaluation of member states compliance with the Special Recommendation on Terrorist Financing of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF);
28. CALL upon the Council of Europe to continue its work against terrorism, including the development of country-profiles on counter-terrorism capacities, activities concerning victims of terrorism and international co-operation;

29. INVITE the Committee of Ministers:

- a. to instruct the CODEXTER to identify additional priority activities against terrorism particularly in the light of the report of the Multidisciplinary Group on International Action against Terrorism (GMT) and the report prepared for the CODEXTER on gaps regarding international law and action;
- b. to instruct, in particular, the CDPC and the CDCJ, in the framework of their specific terms of reference and as regards the implementation of the activities identified to ensure the coherence of the action of the Council of Europe in their respective fields of competence;

30. INVITE the Committee of Ministers, in the framework of the co-operation programmes with member states of the Council of Europe, to provide support for states in upgrading their counter-terrorism legislative and institutional capacities and to pursue effective co-ordination with other international bodies;

31. EXPRESS THE WISH that the Third Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Council of Europe to support and strengthen the role of the Council of Europe in the prevention and suppression of terrorism, through standard setting, monitoring and technical co-operation, and to give impetus to the early signature and ratification of the new Council of Europe conventions relating to terrorism;

32. INVITE the Secretary General of the Council of Europe to report on the steps taken to give effect to this Resolution on the occasion of their next Conference.

Resolution No. 4

on updating the European Prison Rules and on the possibility of a European Prisons Charter

THE MINISTERS, participating in the 26th Conference of the European Ministers of Justice (Helsinki, 7 and 8 April 2005);

1. Considering that it is in the interests of the Council of Europe member states to establish common principles and standards of crime policy;
2. Bearing in mind that a prison sentence should always be a measure of last resort;
3. Considering that for those in custody all appropriate measures should be taken to counter the negative aspects of incarceration, at the same time ensuring a greater likelihood for the full reintegration of the prisoner into society after his or her release;
4. Aware of the growing case law of the European Court of Human Rights in the penitentiary field as well as the standards established by the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman and Degrading Treatment or Punishment;
5. Bearing in mind Parliamentary Assembly Recommendation 1656 (2004) and noting the proposals contained therein recommending the revision of the European Prison Rules and the drawing up, in conjunction with the European Union, of a European Prisons Charter;
6. Noting Recommendation 2003/2188 of European Parliament to the Council of the European Union, encouraging the Council of Europe to revise its European Prison Rules, and to draft a European Prisons Charter covering all the Council of Europe's member states, which would include specific rules on a list of topics;
7. Considering the decision of the Committee of Ministers at Deputies level to transmit Recommendation 1656 (2004) of the Parliamentary Assembly to the Steering Committee on Crime Problems (CDPC) and the Council for Penological Co-operation (PC-CP) to pursue, as scheduled, the work of updating the European Prison Rules, drawing their members' attention to the proposals made now by the Parliamentary Assembly and, in particular, to the proposal to prepare a European Prisons Charter, at the same time, encouraging the European Union to become actively involved in the work under way in the Council of Europe to update the European Prison Rules, as a means of reaching common standards in this area;
8. Noting the Progress Report presented by the CDPC on their work in updating the European Prison Rules;

9. SUPPORT the European Committee for Crime Problems (CDPC) in its drafting of the updated European Prison Rules which should be completed as soon as possible;
10. SUPPORT the CDPC, once it will have approved the updated European Prison Rules, in its examination of the feasibility and of the possible added value of a European Prisons Charter;
11. FURTHER SUPPORT the CDPC in its examination of the feasibility and of the possible added value of a mechanism, which could be incorporated either into the updated European Prison Rules, or into a possible European Prisons Charter, providing for a means to achieve consistency in penitentiary standards and to ensure the regular updating of the relevant texts;
12. INVITE the Committee of Ministers to adopt the updated European Prison Rules without delay once they will have been approved by the CDPC, and to examine, based on the feasibility study, the appropriateness of elaborating a European Prisons Charter.

Resolution No. 5

on the functioning of the Council of Europe conventions on judicial co-operation in criminal matters

THE MINISTERS, participating in the 26th Conference of the European Ministers of Justice (Helsinki, 7 and 8 April 2005):

1. Convinced that one of the roles of the Council of Europe is to define appropriate instruments to promote co-operation between member states to prevent and fight criminality, while preserving human rights guarantees;
2. Bearing in mind the existing 28 European treaties dealing with the various aspects of co-operation in criminal matters;
3. Considering that, among these treaties, the European Convention on Extradition of 1957 and the European Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters of 1959, are of particular relevance in setting up co-operation mechanisms between the member states;
4. Noting that the evolution of criminality towards a growing trans-border phenomenon has led to the need to update the existing instruments and notably to the adoption of the two protocols to the European Convention on Extradition (in 1975 and 1978) and of the two protocols to the European Convention on Assistance in Criminal Matters (in 1978 and 2001);
5. Taking into consideration the role of the European Committee on Crime Problems (CDPC) in the adoption and updating of such instruments, as well as its role and the role of its subordinated committees in developing a continued reflection on the effective operation of the criminal conventions;

INVITE the Committee of Ministers to entrust the CDPC to examine, taking into account best practices developed by member states and the work already being carried out by the Council of Europe in this area, the effective implementation of co-operation mechanisms provided for by the Council of Europe conventions in criminal matters, any difficulties resulting therefrom, as well as possible improvements that could be made, and to make any necessary proposals in this regard.

Resolution No. 6

THE MINISTERS participating in the 26th Conference of European Ministers of Justice (Helsinki, 7 and 8 April 2005),

Aware of the advantage of arranging personal contacts between the Ministers responsible for their governments' policy in the legal field in order to foster the progress of cooperation in this area in Europe,

EXPRESS the warmest thanks to the Finnish Government for the excellent organisation of the 26th Conference in Helsinki and for its kind hospitality ;

TAKE NOTE with gratitude of the invitation of the Minister of Justice of Armenia to hold the 27th Conference of European Ministers of Justice in Yerevan, in Autumn 2006.

APPENDIX IV

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

MJU-26(2005) 1	Report presented by the Minister of Justice of Finland
MJU-26(2005) 2	Report presented by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe
MJU-26(2005) 3 (<i>English only</i>)	Report presented by the Minister of Justice of Albania

APPENDIX V

SIGNATURES AND RATIFICATIONS

Several Council of Europe treaties have been signed or ratified on the occasion of the 26th Conference of European Ministers of Justice held in Helsinki (7-8 April)

7 April 2005

Bulgaria ratified:

- the Convention on Cybercrime ([CETS No. 185](#))

Croatia signed:

- the European Convention on the Compensation of Victims of Violent Crimes ([CETS No. 116](#))

Hungary signed:

- the Protocol No. 14 to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, amending the control system of the Convention ([CETS No. 194](#))

Latvia signed:

- the Additional Protocol to the Criminal Law Convention on Corruption ([CETS No. 191](#))

Liechtenstein signed:

- the European Convention on the Compensation of Victims of Violent Crimes ([CETS No. 116](#))

Lithuania signed:

- the Additional Protocol to the Convention on cybercrime, concerning the criminalisation of acts of a racist and xenophobic nature committed through computer systems ([CETS No. 189](#))

Russia signed:

- the Convention on the Transfer of Sentenced Persons ([CETS No. 112](#))
- the Additional Protocol to the Convention on the Transfer of Sentenced Persons ([CETS No. 167](#))

Serbia and Montenegro signed:

- the Civil Law Convention on Corruption ([CETS No. 174](#))
- the Second Additional Protocol to the European Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters ([CETS No. 182](#))
- the Convention on Cybercrime ([CETS No. 185](#))
- the Additional Protocol to the Convention on cybercrime, concerning the criminalisation of acts of a racist and xenophobic nature committed through computer systems ([CETS No. 189](#))

Slovakia signed:

- the Protocol amending the European Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism ([CETS No. 190](#))

and ratified:

- the Additional Protocol to the Criminal Law Convention on Corruption ([CETS No. 191](#))

Slovenia signed:

- the Second Additional Protocol to the European Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters ([CETS No. 182](#))

8 April 2005

Romania signed:

- the European Convention on the Compensation of Victims of Violent Crimes ([CETS No. 116](#))

Ukraine signed:

- the European Convention on the Compensation of Victims of Violent Crimes ([CETS No. 116](#))
- the Additional Protocol to the Convention on cybercrime, concerning the criminalisation of acts of a racist and xenophobic nature committed through computer systems ([CETS No. 189](#))

