



Network for investigation and  
prosecution of genocide, crimes  
against humanity and war crimes

## **Conclusions of the 2nd Meeting of the European Network of Contact Points for investigation and prosecution of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes**

**28-29 June 2005, The Hague**

1. The members of the European Network of Contact Points on Genocide, Crimes against Humanity and War Crimes emphasise that successful investigation and prosecution of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes require co-operation between all authorities within the Member States and between the Member States and the International Criminal Tribunals.
2. In this context, the members of the Network stress that the rapid and effective implementation of Council Decision of 8 May 2003 on the investigation and prosecution of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes will reinforce the exchange of information between national authorities and improve co-operation.
3. The members of the Network note the need of the International Criminal Tribunals to receive information relating to ongoing national investigations into offences for which these Tribunals have competence.
4. The members of the Network are of the opinion that it may be important for effective investigation and prosecution to receive information from the International Criminal Tribunals.
5. In this context, the members of the Network welcome the work undertaken by Interpol to build up databases containing operative information and information on legal provisions applicable to war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide. They deem it useful to promote and support that work of Interpol and to co-operate actively with Interpol.

6. The members of the Network are of the opinion that needs and possibilities to allow for arrest warrants issued by the International Criminal Tribunals to be entered into the Schengen Information System, should be analysed. Furthermore, the members of the Network deem it highly desirable that a long-term legal framework is found for effective co-operation of the Institutions and bodies of the European Union with the International Criminal Tribunals.
7. The members of the Network recognise the valuable contribution of NGOs in supporting national and international investigations and prosecution of these crimes.
8. The members of the Network are convinced that the Network is an appropriate forum to exchange best practices relating to investigation and prosecution concerning genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes. They are convinced that the Network, in interaction with Interpol, can contribute to improving the exchange of information and co-operation between Member States and between the Member States and the International Criminal Tribunals.
9. In this context, the Network should meet regularly, as provided for by Article 5(2) of the Council Decision of 8 May 2003 on the investigation and prosecution of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes, to fulfil its tasks. The members of the Network call on future Presidencies to organise meetings of the network semi-annually and invite representatives from the International Criminal Tribunals as well as NGOs to participate therein.