

THIRD EXPERT MEETING - SUMMARY
NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE AUTHORITIES AND SURVEILLANCE IN THE EU:
FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS SAFEGUARDS AND REMEDIES

Vienna, 23 February 2017

The Agency convened the third expert meeting of its national intelligence authorities and surveillance project to capture various perspectives, experience and expertise from participants on the work to date. Fourteen experts from EU institutions, national oversight bodies, civil society organisations and academia attended the meeting. The meeting followed Chatham House rules; comments made during discussions could be summarised but not attributed to any one person.

The expert meeting aimed to:

- Discuss and critique the main findings and draft opinions from the legal update and fieldwork that will be in the new FRA report due to be published in October 2017.
- Explore how best to promote the findings and optimise outreach among key decision makers and stakeholders.

Constantinos Manolopoulos (FRA Deputy Director) welcomed participants. He introduced the Agency and the specific request from the European Parliament that led FRA to conduct research on surveillance by intelligence services across the EU. At the end of the meeting, Friso Roscam Abbing (Head of FRA's Fundamental Rights Promotion Department) presented the Agency's outreach network among stakeholders and discussed possible opportunities to communicate the work.

1) **Feedback on the main findings and draft opinions** from the legal update and fieldwork including further conclusions that can be drawn from the research

Participants gave their opinions on aspects that need strengthening. Issues related to the structure and focus of the new report, the level of detail and use of terminology were discussed. They gave feedback on the main findings and possible FRA opinions regarding: the intelligence services and legal frameworks; international cooperation among intelligence services; elements of an effective oversight system; and remedies for individuals to seek redress in cases of rights violations.

Participants provided additional feedback on the analysis of the fieldwork research. They suggested ways to integrate it into the report so that the report best reflects the socio-legal analysis.

2) Potential contacts that FRA could engage with to spread the findings further and exploration of possibilities for **better outreach among key decision makers and stakeholders**

Based on the meeting participants' contributions and expert consultations in the future, FRA will continue to enhance the legal research and fieldwork component of the surveillance research project. FRA will stay in close contact with participants and looks forward to additional feedback during the project development and implementation. The report will be published in October 2017.