

**Declarations to the Council Decision extending Europol's mandate to deal with the serious forms of international crime listed in the Annex to the Europol Convention**

(2001/C 362/02)

1. The Council agrees that the instruction of Europol to deal with 'fraud' as one of the forms of crime referred to in the Annex to the Europol Convention confers, as far as tax fraud and customs fraud is concerned, competences to Europol only in the field of improvement of the effectiveness and cooperation of the competent authorities of the Member States responsible for the functioning of the criminal law enforcement system and not their authorities responsible for ensuring the levying of taxes and customs duties.
  2. The Council agrees that the inclusion of fraud among the forms of crime referred to in the Annex to the Europol Convention must take account of OLAF's competence for fraud and lead to the negotiation of an agreement between Europol and the Commission.
  3. The Council declares that the term 'organised theft' used in some language versions of the Annex to the Europol Convention also includes 'organised robbery'.
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