
Chapter 31 Screening

Foreign, Security and Defence Policy,
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Consular Protection
Giorgio Porzio – GSC – Private Office SG/HR

Consular Protection for EU Citizens in Third Countries

- Article 20 (ex article 8c) of the TEC establishes consular protection:
 - Every citizen of the Union shall, in the territory of a third country in which the Member State of which he is a national is not represented, be entitled to protection by the diplomatic or consular authorities of any Member State, on the same conditions as the nationals of that State. Member States shall establish the necessary rules among themselves and start the international negotiations required to secure this protection.

- Article 20 of the TEU extends the notion:
 - The diplomatic and consular missions of the Member States and the Commission delegations in third countries and international conferences, and their representations to international organisations, shall cooperate in ensuring that the common positions and joint actions adopted by the Council are complied with and implemented. They shall step up cooperation by exchanging information, carrying out joint assessments and contributing to the implementation of the provisions referred to in Article 20 of the Treaty establishing the European Community.

Follow-up measures

- Decisions by the Representatives of Governments of Member States on 19 December 1995 on Consular Protection and implementing measures
- Decision by the Representatives of Governments of Member States on 25 June 1996 concerning the creation of an Emergency Travel Document (ETD)
- Guidelines for consular cooperation in third countries in 2000, 2001, 2003, 2005 and 2006

- The Decisions are binding, guidelines are not

- However, recent crises (Bali, Egypt, Indian Ocean tsunami, Lebanon...) have given the guidelines a “special” status, as now all Member States follow them

- **The Treaties:** <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/en/treaties/index.htm>
- **Decisions by the Representatives of Governments of Member States on 19 December 1995 on Consular Protection and implementing measures:** OJ L 314, 28.12.1995
- **Decision by the Representatives of Governments of Member States on 25 June 1996 concerning the creation of an Emergency Travel Document (ETD):** OJ L 168, 6.7.1996
- **Guidelines for consular cooperation 2006:**
http://register.consilium.europa.eu/servlet/driver?page=Result&lang=EN&typ=Advanced&cmsid=639&ff_COTE_DOCUMENT=10109%2F2%2F06&ff_COTE_DOSSIER_INST=&ff_TITRE=&ff_FT_TEXT=&ff_SOUS_COTE_MATIÈRE=&dd_DATE_DOCUMENT=&dd_DATE_REUNION=&dd_FT_DATE=&fc=RÉGAISEN&srm=25&md=100&ssf=