European Network on Victims' Rights
Background

• Victim policy one of the pillars of Ministry of Justice and Security

• Establishment European Network on Victims’ Rights under the Dutch Presidency

• Action Grand from the EC

• First meeting 19 February 2016

• Together with our partners France, Ireland and Slovakia and later Hungary
Fundamental Rights EU

• Directive European Protection order (2011)
• Regulation on mutual recognition of protection measures in civil matters (2013)
• Directive minimum standards rights, support and protection of victims of crime (2012)
Yet..

• Although in theory all victims have these rights, in practice they often can’t exercise them

• Not in their country of origin

• Or in cross-border cases
Solution

- Establishment of an EU network for policy officers of “relevant authorities” (they have oversight)
- Who can exchange knowledge and best practices and discuss dilemma’s
- To improve the position of the victim in the EU,
  a. in their own country
  b. in cross-border cases
- By helping with the implementation of the EU directive
- And facilitating cooperation in cross-border cases
Meetings

• 19 Feb ‘16  Amsterdam (kick off)

• 21 Nov ‘16  Bratislava

• May ‘17  Paris
Amsterdam agenda - 1

Plenary Session I
Introduction

• Mr. Ard van der Steur, Minister of Security and Justice of the Netherlands
• Ms. Věra Jourová, EU Commissioner Justice, Consumers and Gender Equality
• Ms. Jiménez-Becerril Barrío, Member of the European Parliament

Presentations

• Ms. Aimée Metselaar about her experience as a victim
• Mr. João Lázaro, President Victim Support Europe
• Update of important issues in the area of victims’ rights (European Commission)
Amsterdam agenda - 2

• Workshop 1: Individual Assessment - Prof. Dr. Silvia Allegrezza (University of Luxembourg)
• Workshop 2: Provision of information and the training of professionals - Prof. Dr. Marc Groenhuijisen (University of Tilburg, The Netherlands)
• Workshop 3: Cross-border cases - Dr. Anna Wergens (Umeå University, Sweden)
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Plenary Session I

Introduction

• **Mr Michal Kotlárik** General Director of the International Law Department, Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic

• **Mr Stanislav Gaňa** Director of the Legislation and Pardons Department, Office of the President of the Slovak Republic

• **Ms Janka Šípošová** Advisor to the Member of the Parliament/Lecturer at Police Academy (Former Director of Victim Support Slovakia)

Presentations

• Victim’s Needs when providing information  
  **Mr Levent Altan** Executive Director of Victim Support Europe

• The European Judicial Network - next steps towards improving Victim’s Rights  
  **Mr Ola Löfgren** Secretary of the European Judicial Network in criminal matters

• Victim’s Access to Information  
  **Mr Albin Dearing** Programme Manager Research, Fundamental Rights Agency
Bratislava agenda - 2

• Workshop 1: Complementarity between the European Network on Victims’ rights and the European Judicial Network

• Workshop 2: European e-Justice Portal as a one-stop-shop on access to information for all victims of all crimes

• Workshop 3: Psycho-social and Legal Court Assistance for Victims in Austria and Germany

Plenary Session II

• Latest developments in the area of victims’ rights: Information from the European Commission
Paris agenda

Main theme: victims of terrorist attacks

- Plenary session
- Workshop 1: Preparing victims’ services
- Workshop 2: Cross border victims
- Workshop 3: Minors as victim
Continuation

• Another Action Grand for two more years
• Same support group, Hungary in the lead
• Finding a ‘permanent home’