



‘The legal framework introduced by the Lisbon Treaty provides further legal and practical arrangements to make operational cooperation between authorities of different Member States effective.’

DG Migration and Home Affairs website

Online Module: Executive Summary

This online learning module is about the impact of the Lisbon Treaty on law enforcement. It is different from the other modules, as it does not deal with a specific field of law enforcement. Instead, it aims to provide an overview of all provisions of the Lisbon Treaty that are significant for the law enforcement community.

The Lisbon Treaty fundamentally changed the way the EU exercises its powers when it entered into force in 2009. Legislatively, it amended two EU treaties:

- the Treaty on European Union (TEU or Maastricht Treaty, 1993);
- the Treaty establishing the European Community (or Treaty of Rome, 1957, now called the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union – TFEU).

From a law enforcement perspective, the most important impacts of the Lisbon Treaty occur in the area of freedom, security and justice (AFSJ). The AFSJ is a collection of justice and home affairs policies designed to ensure security, rights and free movement within the EU. It covers policy areas from the management of the EU’s external borders to judicial cooperation in civil and criminal matters and police cooperation and includes asylum and immigration policies and the fight against terrorism and organised crime.

The Lisbon Treaty module aims to provide users with a broad understanding of the background, importance, provisions and impact of the Lisbon Treaty. It targets those police and law enforcement officers, border guards, customs officers and judiciary staff, who are interested or involved in the higher levels of international cooperation between police, law enforcement and judicial authorities.

The module consists of an introduction, nine topic chapters and a glossary of Lisbon Treaty-related terms and abbreviations. In the My Progress section, users can assess their levels of understanding of each of the topics by considering a selection of true/false statements.

The individual chapters are:

1. **Introduction**
2. **Content and Main Features of the Lisbon Treaty:** This chapter presents the historical context of the Lisbon Treaty, its main features and the changes it brought about in the governance, decision-making, and cooperation in the EU.
3. **Area of Freedom, Security and Justice (AFSJ):** The chapter introduces the policy area called the AFSJ. It describes the historical development of the AFSJ and the roles and functions of the EU decision-making bodies and agencies involved.
4. **Fundamental Rights and Freedoms:** The Lisbon Treaty had a notable impact on fundamental rights and freedoms in the EU. This chapter covers this impact, including the provisions of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, the EU's accession to the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (ECHR), and a brief overview of the judicial system in the EU.
5. **AFSJ - Judicial Cooperation:** This chapter focuses on the legal framework established to support the close cooperation of the national law enforcement authorities in the Member States, which is required to maintain the AFSJ.
6. **Fight against Fraud:** This chapter presents the legislation introduced in the Lisbon Treaty to improve the fight against fraud. It includes the roles of the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) and the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO).
7. **AFSJ - Police Cooperation:** A close cooperation of the Member States' police authorities is a key aspect of the maintenance of the AFSJ. This chapter introduces the measures that aim to enhance police cooperation, including the role of Europol.
8. **Border Control and Customs Cooperation:** This chapter focuses on two aspects of the control of EU borders: the mechanism of border control and customs cooperation.
9. **Common Security and Defence Policy:** This chapter introduces the EU's foreign, security and defence policies, paying particular attention to questions of European security and defence.
10. **Cooperation on Civil Protection Issues:** This chapter looks at how EU Member States can cooperate on questions of civil security and civil protection inside and outside of the EU's borders.